

# Public Libraries

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## This Business of Ours

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**W**HO are we? What are we? Why are we? I have frequently asked myself one or all of these questions when contemplating the general output of our alleged profession.

At present this output consists of little more than it did 40 odd years ago when we first united in an organized effort to exploit this business of ours. Two main processes only are involved in the production of this output so far as we have developed it, viz. book selection and tabulation of books and borrowers. Subsidiary processes of preparing books for the shelves and the other necessary records of books and borrowers are simple as compared to the equivalent records of great forwarding or manufacturing plants. Yet it is upon the mere ability to handle these several comparatively elementary processes and records that we base the familiar contention of being a profession. As a matter of fact we have so far allowed these mechanical formulas to obscure the real *raison d'être* of a public library, viz. service to the public—the whole public, not only women and children—to such a degree, that now the records and not the service constitute the sum and substance of our “professional” activity and consequently the bulk of the training in our library schools.

This is one reason why library salaries are proverbially low. We have

been raising the standard of admission into this business of ours without making commensurate provision for raising the value of our products. We require far more preparation on the part of entrants today than was the case five, ten or twenty years ago. The grade of paid work assigned to these people, however, remains the same as it was then. All methods of preparing books for the shelves are as unstandardized and as hit-or-miss today as they were years ago. It is generally admitted that it is costing more and more to prepare a book for the shelves. Is it not conceivable that this may be due to the present system of high grade pay for low grade work? Surely no fair-minded person can contend that any of the processes to which a book is subjected before it is ready for public use is of such a nature that a bright high school girl could not in a few months and with the proper instruction master them. If it takes longer either the instruction or the student is at fault. It is true that there are more libraries today and that more books are being circulated than was the case years ago. I doubt, however, that this increase in book circulation is of a corresponding ratio with the population increase. In other words then, we are simply standing still. In that case what right have we to claim for this our intensified inefficiency acceptance into the professions?

I believe in this business of ours. I believe that there is a most vital place for it in public affairs. I believe it has most impressive professional possibilities. I believe also that we are not only making no effort to capture that place but that we are doing our best to pull from under the place where we are standing still, whatever support that place now has.

This business of ours is now over 40 years old. These 40 years cover a period of unprecedented industrial development. The automobile industry—at present the fifth largest industry in the world—is less than half as old as our business. Note the almost daily improvement in the mechanics of that industry to meet the ever varying requirements. Observe that it is said that the motor car industry has done more to promote and weld agricultural and economic interests than any other one industry. Observe that we like to think of ourselves as the caterers of culture. Observe that we are catering just as we did forty years ago. In fact we are being out-catered by the motor car. And yet we expect to be rated as professionals. What is the attraction, distinction or justification in that kind of professionalism?

Recently there was mailed to me a number of the house organ of one of our largest public libraries. This particular institution is administered by a graduate of one of our oldest library schools. Printed in this house organ was a call for volunteers to help prepare books for shipment to the war libraries. The especial appeal of this call was "Help, because you have been especially trained for this kind of work." I was not a little hurt and mortified at this naïve proclamation of the scope of the training for this our alleged profession.

I cannot help but feel that the unfortunate failure of the public library system to adjust itself to modern requirements is due largely to the inadequate curriculum of the training schools. The more rigidly we censor admission into this business of ours,

the more essential it is that we offer equivalent prospects to applicants. Training schools are drawing the net ever closer about the applicants. Some schools now require a college education—four years of systematic study—plus the two years of library training before granting certificated qualification. This means that the actual productive period of a young woman contemplating library work is curtailed by six years. And yet all that we offer at present in the training schools is instruction in branches quite within the comprehension of pupils of the higher grammar grades and of the high schools.

It is not pleasant to say these things, and it is far less pleasant to feel justified in saying them. I do not say them from any personal acquaintance with the schools, but from a personal acquaintance of many years' standing with the product of most of the schools in various kinds of libraries. Based on such experience as I have, I do feel justified in saying that the gulf between the qualifications of the average library school graduate and the average demand of the public is still very wide. The trouble is we train for one thing, i. e. the ability to make and keep records, and the public is demanding something else, for which we do not, as yet, train at all. The public, which, there is no use in denying, has slipped past us, is demanding expert service with comprehension of values, factors and terminology of present day conditions and their alliances. This requires mental maturity, wide mental sympathies, and, in general, a service which can with truth be claimed as professional. The present-day school curriculum tends towards securing a higher average wage for all kinds of library work provided for in that curriculum. The highest average pay is, however, no inducement to persons qualified to give the expert service demanded by the public. The consequence is that the percentage of efficiency we deliver is so much below the par of demand that the market which we could serve

goes elsewhere. By thus putting an artificial rating upon the value of public library work as we do it today, without at the same time reforming that work to meet legitimate demands, we are bringing about a condition which sooner or later will make it impossible to dispose of that work at all. We have but to consider the growth of the special library movement and the rapid emergence of the school library movement to be warned of the possible reversion of the public library to a mere "lending library."

Just as sad as is the fact that the schools are missing an opportunity is the fact that many of the student body themselves recognize and admit the unfairness of representations. These representations are unfair equally to the student and to the ultimate employer. Time and again I have been embarrassed to witness the confusion on the part of a highly accredited library school graduate when a perfectly obvious reference question was put to

her. I could not say to the reader, to cover her confusion, "Dear Sir, this young lady can make a perfect catalog card, she can shelf-list and file and typewrite, she is a trained library worker, yes, but she cannot tell you where to get a table showing the effect of wars on security value fluctuations. The public library is not the place to come for such service."

The solution as it appears to me lies in a modified school curriculum. Let training in all the mechanical processes of preparing books for the shelves and in the clerical record keeping devices, be given in a much shorter course than is at present required. This training can very well be given by librarians. Let there be absolutely no delusion that this training qualifies for professional library work. The actual training for this latter branch of library work should be given only to persons especially qualified and by specialists representing the public.

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### Can Art be Taught?

If art may be said to be the most perfect ordering of the various components of a given situation, until they all fall into a planned and exquisite relationship and become a unity, it must be evident that the study of art, when well guided and brought to a good development, will be but the study of how to attain the insight and the power to make all situations, as well as paintings or sculpture, more harmonious and worth while. If this sort of teaching were well done, and the student practiced it in life as in painting, would not the world make greater use of a constructive force so worthy of its attention? Perhaps it is that those who are at the work, teachers or appreciators, do not remember that to have the power of expressing art, or of understanding and appreciating it, one must live the principles of art themselves. The practice of gain

is quite the opposite from that of giving; and the habit of getting all one can opposed to the inclusiveness which comes from understanding and sympathy. It may be that art can only be taught to those who are already at harmony with their brothers, or who at least understand the value of a perfect relationship of parts; after that, such an one will only need to be equipped with the technique. There is much in common between a Velasquez and a great engine.—R. F. Seymour.

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Don't fear honest competition. It is a splendid way to show your strength.

Don't go to your work half hearted. Good work needs plenty of enthusiasm.

Don't hope the great things to come your way until you do the little things well.

Don't shun plenty of hard work; it is a true, steadfast friend.

## Advanced Instruction in Summer Library Schools\*

**A**LTHOUGH we believe that no formal training can take the place of the "book sensitiveness" gained by long familiarity with a great library, we also believe that a course in a good library school is the best and quickest way to become acquainted with the rudiments of library technique, just as a course in a good college is the best and quickest way to lay the foundation of an education. We believe that the library schools are doing good work; but, like the ungrateful and immortal Oliver, we tremblingly (or brazenly) ask for "more."

The purpose of this paper is to present the need of a more special and advanced type of instruction, which is now nowhere available in summer schools—advanced instruction and expert advice on the problems which confront those library workers who have already had technical training or some years of experience, or both, but who find their equipment inadequate for the satisfactory solution of their problems.

This training might be roughly compared with the seminars conducted in university summer courses which lead to advanced degrees, especially those courses where theses are planned and discussed. For example: (a) a seminar in special problems of library administration, (b) library buildings, (c) classification and cataloging, (d) intensive courses in the bibliographies of special subjects, (e) a thorough course in public documents. By a thorough and intensive course is meant a course to which one must give practically all one's time for the summer session, or at least half one's entire time.

Let us consider this proposition from the point of view of the college librarian. The young librarian in the small college library begins his work armed usually with a bachelor's degree and one or two years of training in a library school. With this equipment plus a few years of

practical experience, valuable but generally not varied, he may be confronted with an appalling variety of perplexing problems.

The library may be in any stage of development, but often it is not many years removed from a state of chaos. It may originally have been under the direction of the department of English, or history, or possibly the department of oratory—the library being considered probably as oratory, history and English in a congealed condition. Not many years ago any department was generally supposed to be entirely competent to invent systems of classification and cataloging—"all that *this* library will ever need."

But fortunately times will change. Libraries will grow. The need of more books and better arrangement will be so keenly felt that funds will be made available and expansion will burst the bonds of the old régime. Then system must be introduced. Departments which have ordered books without any regard to each other must be made to realize that they are only parts of a whole that must work together; otherwise costly duplication and useless waste occur. College professors are as tenacious of their ancient rights as were any "lords of the manor," and their customs seem sometimes as unchangeable as those of the Medes and Persians. How shall the librarian convince them of the need of newer ways? (They may never be convinced that they are *better*.) The professor who has been in the habit of locking all the books on his subject in his office was not so great a detriment when he was the only teacher in that department and his students were few. Now, when he has two or three assistants and a larger body of students he must be constrained, for the general good, to release his treasures for circulation among the irreverent crowd which thinks that books are intended for use. No one who has not struggled with this situation has any idea how deeply a professor with a departmental library is convinced that no one else on earth wants

\*Taken by permission from *School and Society*, 7:156-60.



or needs those books except himself—and that *his* need is vital. In vain the librarian may tell him of the mob of students clamoring daily for those very books—"They would wear them out!" exclaims the horrified departmentarian. The librarian may plead for the instructors whose need of these books is urgent—"I may need those books next year for course 7, and then they might be out!" objects the determined professor.

The need of assistance, the need of books for neglected subjects, the need of a building—all the problems of a library, growing and expanding with small means, confront the librarian. He can not hire experts to advise with him; they are too expensive. The sessions at the A. L. A. are too general and too short to fully serve him. The library school instruction is too elementary, or comes at times when he can not leave his work. The present summer schools do not approach his field.

The reference and order departments often feel keenly the need of more thorough and adequate knowledge of the literature and bibliography of certain subjects than is gained in the library school. The worker in a scientific library needs a knowledge of the literature and bibliography of science, a subject which is barely touched upon even in so valuable a work as Kroeger's "Guide." Such knowledge can be best gained from advanced courses in the literature and bibliography of the subjects. Several universities offer courses in the history and bibliography of science, in the literature and bibliography of history, etc. But they also are not available on account of the time of year. In the matter of trade bibliography, of auction buying, the selection of editions, the librarian often feels how shallow and uncertain is his knowledge, and shrinks from obtaining that knowledge by experience costly to his library.

The cataloger and classifier are constantly bumping up against problems of the best and simplest methods in their work—problems which would be entirely beyond the grasp of the usual library school pupil. But the greatest need of

the cataloger and classifier, in addition to scholarship, is to avoid losing in the daily routine the larger view of the work they are doing. To make a survey of the catalog, to map out a broad plan which will show where details of analysis, reference, etc., must be filled in, takes training and experience. The stimulus of a course of lectures from some makers of catalogs which are models of scholarship and of art would be the salvation of many a conscientious cataloger overwhelmed with detail work.

Take the problems of college library administration; although peculiar for each college and necessarily to be worked out in relation to its own conditions, yet those problems might be more wisely solved if the librarian could have the benefit of lectures and advice by librarians of wide experience. Most library schools offer a course of lectures on college library administration in the second year's work. If such a course were offered in a summer school—a course broadened and enlarged to meet the needs of people of some years' experience—it would be of great service to the young librarian.

Again, the librarian may be struggling with the problem of a new building. He can not afford expert counsel in working out his special problem. He reads what books there are on the subject. He borrows plans from A. L. A. and a few librarians with whom he gets in touch. But the amount of help is very small. He wants an unknown combination of expert library and architectural advice. Why can not some university, with an architectural college and a great library, become the headquarters for a comprehensive collection of plans for libraries? And why can not courses be given in summer schools which will present the principles of best arrangement of a library for library service, and the various methods of securing that result in combination with good architecture, where the librarian can present his peculiar problems of size, service, and available funds and receive reliable suggestions? He would not expect to have his architectural plans drawn for him, with details and specifications; but he would ex-

pect such advice as would save him from spending his building fund on an inadequate and incongruous conglomeration such as mars many a college campus, and impairs the usefulness of many a library staff.

The "document" collection in many libraries is the despair of all who attempt to use it. If the person in charge could have a thorough and adequate course of instruction, not only in the intricacies of our national authors (*that he is supposed to have gained already*), but also in the best and most economical methods of arrangement and administration in practical libraries, it might save years of wasted time for attendants and users. Such a course should not consist of any one person's opinion, but should present several "best" ways of dealing with this valuable material, leaving the individual with a clear idea of principles by which to work out his own method of treatment.

Even if the library school offered courses highly specialized and advanced enough to meet these needs, the library worker could not attend them on account of his occupation during the school year. Only occasionally is one able to arrange for a whole year's leave of absence. The summer course is usually his only available opportunity for study; and summer library courses, so far have been extremely elementary in character. They have not even provided work which could be credited toward the first year's certificate. This certainly is a mistake. When university summer schools all over the country offer work which may be counted toward the master's and even the doctor's degree, what good reason is there why library summer schools should be so far behind?

Probably the first reason is the sad fact that librarians are so generally deprived of the time for study and advancement. This serious drawback to professional improvement should be remedied, and provision made for allowing the ambitious library workers the opportunity of attending summer schools, both for the advancement of their gen-

eral scholarship, and for special technical training.

Another reason why the library schools have not lived up to their opportunity may be the seclusion (not to say exclusion) in which they hold themselves. If the faculties of the library school were more closely in touch with the demands of the calling as service, instead of as occupations for their students, they would feel more vitally the needs of the employers.

Is it barely possible that the library schools take themselves too seriously? For example, at certain meetings of the A. L. A. the Library-school section closes its doors, with a solemnity and formality remarkably resembling the meetings of a college fraternity, to any one who is not connected with library-school faculties. Now, for the discussion of some subjects, as perhaps the grading of schools, such sessions may possibly better be secret, although the secret faculty meeting is not entirely beyond criticism in any case. But granting that some meetings are better closed, it certainly would be better if most of the discussions were open to other librarians. The curriculum of the library school, the methods and extent of instruction in certain subjects, are as vitally interesting to the employers of the students as to their instructors. The librarians, the heads of cataloging departments, the heads of training classes and of other departments of library work should know what the library schools are trying to do.

Perhaps it would be heresy to suggest that the library schools might possibly receive valuable suggestions from the employers of their pupils, but certainly those employers might get more adequate ideas of the aims and methods of the library schools so that they might know what to expect when they engage their graduates for service. For example, in some special lines such as cataloging, the college librarian sometimes finds it harder to train the library-school graduate into the ways of careful research, than the bright young student just out of college. The reason is that the library-

school graduate is often too sure he knows everything worth knowing in technical lines, while the technically untrained college graduate usually has an open mind and a teachable attitude toward a new subject.

As was stated at the beginning, we do not wish to belittle the value of library-school training. It is a necessity for most persons who would advance in the profession at the present time, and any who have not had that training should get it as soon as possible, even at great sacrifice. Whatever criticism we may make of the library-schools, they are the best means now available for obtaining a general acquaintance with the whole field of library work in the shortest time; and those who have had such training will usually outdistance, in general library work, their rival who has not had such training. But they should strive to keep an open mind and to realize that the end of all wisdom is not reached at the end of a year or two in the library-school; that to graduate from a library school does not necessarily make a successful librarian any more than to graduate from an engineering college makes a successful engineer. If library schools would impress this attitude upon their pupils, and if they would also restrain themselves from being overzealous in pushing their candidates into positions for which they are not adequately prepared, they would save their students from some discouraging disappointments and the employers from dissatisfaction.

It may be objected that there is not enough demand to justify the establishment of these advanced summer courses; but from the inquiries I have personally heard, I believe such courses would fill a definite need. There is a distinct demand from the college field, and many in public libraries are working over the same problems under the same limitations. If two or three institutions of high rank, say one in the east, one in the middle west, and one on the western coast, were to offer such courses, each would have a sufficiently wide field to draw from. And the institutions offering this higher in-

struction to the library profession would render a great service to the smaller educational institutions as well as to the ambitious young librarians who are now in a state of mind to exclaim, "Where *shall* wisdom be found, and where *is* the place of understanding?"—and who get no answer to their cry.

Under the present organization of libraries, with long hours of service, meager salaries, and short vacations, one is tempted to say to the ambitious young person of scholarly tastes who thinks of entering the library profession, "All hope abandon, ye who enter here." Compared with the teaching profession we are at a distinct disadvantage in opportunities for advancement in scholarship and in professional training. Librarianship, with its great possibilities for service, must not be allowed to become a blind alley; and one of the first doors to be opened should be that of the summer school for advanced professional instruction.

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#### A Revised and Enlarged Bulletin State college of Washington, Pullman

Last July the library of the state college of Washington, in coöperation with the Home Economics department, issued a bibliography entitled "Food economy for the housewife." This was offered as a contribution to the nation-wide movement for the conservation of all national resources.

At the request of the U. S. Food Administration, Library section, and the A. L. A. committee on food information, we are revising the first edition of the bulletin and enlarging it from 36 to 50 pages, and expect to furnish it to the library directors of the U. S. Food Administration in the various states at \$6 a hundred. The directors of 25 of these states have already endorsed the bibliography, and are planning to use it in their state campaign.

W. W. FOOTE.

## Home Reactions From School Library Work

The School department of the library forces is commissariat headquarters for the very front of our library fighting line today. Hundreds of boxes containing twenty books or so are hurried off to every classroom of even the most distant and smallest schools in the city at the beginning of each term's campaign for the civilizing of the rising generation. The mechanical labor involved in transporting these supplies to every nook and cranny of our school system, checking shipments, interviewing the teachers in charge of these outposts as to special needs, may well keep feverishly busy the well-equipped staff of assistants. But the School Librarian may be pardoned if she now and then pauses in her work and scans the horizon somewhat anxiously for signs that her labor is vital; that somewhere in the front trenches hungry minds appreciate the life-giving food her books are bringing.

A survey recently made by a few seventh and eighth grade teachers in Portland to ascertain the home effects of the children's reading resulted in unexpected revelations.

The literature teacher tells of the confident appeals that come to her to cure Johnny's bad manners or his idleness, or his tendency to play truant, and, where her one "woman-power" strength would fail, what a wonderful emergency kit her school library has proved.

"Sonia came from Russia at the outbreak of the war. Her sister Rosa came one day much troubled because Sonia was with the wrong kind of girls.

"Sonia she run with girls who go to shows all the time. I told them not to come to our house for my Sonia any more. She's not to run about the streets."

"What does she do in the evenings?" asked the literature teacher.

"She always studied every night, now she don't need to study so hard, so she plays on the street."

"I'll see that she has some library reading to do at night," said the literature teacher.

"Yes. I told her now she was in the seventh grade she would have to read good books," said Rosa, who could read Turgenieff in the original and was making the acquaintance of Shakespeare in the original.

So Sonia made the acquaintance of Louisa M. Alcott and Helen Keller and David Copperfield and Agnes and Silas Marner and little Eppie, and a host of those who make a magic world for boys and girls, and decided that these folk were better company than the girls who went to the Front Avenue movies every night. One day she discovered Mary Antin's "Promised Land" and she came to the literature teacher with shining eyes.

"Why she's just like me!" cried Sonia. "When she was a little girl she lived in Russia within the Pale just like me! And I saw Miss Antin at the Neighborhood House last year and heard her talk, so interesting! Oh, I like this book! When I grow up I am going to write a book like Miss Antin. I have begun already. I am writing about my trip from Russia."

So the problem of Sonia was solved, for, given a vital interest and a life ambition, a little Jewish girl with red hair may safely be left to work out her own salvation.

"There, too, was little Irish Mike of the streets. Mike had a pretty taste in penny thrillers. Mike's next older brother, at 15 had hopped on a freight train with others of his gang and ridden away into hobo-land, whence no word ever came to the hard working little mother, who had no place to bring up three boys but a basement room and the streets. Another brother had been in trouble for joy-riding in other people's cars. Should sunny-tempered, gay little Mike be allowed to follow the same road? He came to acknowledge that Stevenson and Jack London and Mark Twain were 'pretty good stuff,' and when he developed an interest in current magazines and lives of Americans who were doing worth while things, the literature teacher was

much relieved. When he announced that he thought a civil engineer had a chance for 'doing big things' she sought to foster his ambition and make him believe that any boy who wants it can earn an education that will fit him for any job he wants."

There are some slow children who somehow slip through our intermediate grades without mastering the mechanics of reading to whom the world of story is a sealed book. One seventh grade boy from Washington confessed to his English teacher that he had never read a book in his life, and, what is more, didn't want to read one. With a tempting account of its attractions, the teacher thrust into his reluctant hands "Hoosier school-boy." Aided by his teacher's intuition he is following up enthusiastically the valorous deeds of the ancient Greeks and the mediaeval Knights.

With the teacher lies the power to stimulate so great an interest that such children will make the tremendous effort required now to gain tools to break out of the mind prison. The imagination must be touched, and once awakened will find the way out.

"Helga was a member of a girl's class where selections were constantly read from *The Wonder Clock*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Pollyanna*, *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, and *Little Citizens*. These selections were so tantalizing and they made Helga so anxious to know the rest of the story that she made the tremendous effort, and one by one read in a year's time the seven books in the above list. *The Wonder Clock* was the first book she had ever read through, and she was a seventh grader."

An interesting card record of the children's reading is kept by at least one literature teacher. Daily reading aloud at home is required and the parents are asked to guarantee the reports which are brought in weekly. This teacher tells that of 245 pupils in her reading classes, 150 read aloud daily at home, and the remainder occasionally. Another teacher reports that all but 52 of her 200 pupils read aloud at home. The reasons given by the 52 for not doing so were pathetic, indicating crowded homes, and

parents overburdened or unable to understand the language. The parents respond with the greatest interest in the child's progress, and within a few weeks, improvement in distinct enunciation, due to the practice before the family audience, is most marked. A child told his teacher that when once absorbed in reading aloud from his book, he entirely forgot his stuttering.

But it is not only the utilitarian side that appeals to the child himself, as witness Isaac, when he announced he liked to read *The Last of the Mohicans* aloud "just to hear myself."

Old cut and dried methods have been banished and every effort made to stimulate individual thought and comment. A mother while visiting the school, told of her own interested re-reading of *Don Quixote* through her son's reports of his class work. The teacher smiled at the son's comment that "he did like *Don Quixote* although he couldn't help believing he was a lunatic." Equally frank are the reflections of Lena Weinstein in the following extract from a letter to her teacher:

During vacation I finished "*Polly Oliver's Problems*" and have begun on "*Two Dianas*" by Dumas. I felt very sorry for Polly when she lost her mother. "*Two Dianas*" is really a book for older people than myself, but the only thing that keeps me at it is that I am anxious to know if the old man in the *Chalet* is Viscount D'Exém's father. The books that I have mentioned I think are good literature but I am not sure about "*Polly Oliver's Problems*." I read the *Jewish and Russian Forums* to my father and mother in the evenings. When I read the *Literary Digest*, *Current Opinion* or some other magazine, I have to stop and explain each paragraph in my own words.

Great as is the reward to the teacher for every individual child thus inspired and helped, it is still more heartening to follow the child home and discover that one small mustard seed can bear astonishing fruit. Not only little brother and sister, but father, mother, and even grandmother, are slowly and surely drawn into the charmed circle. Our school children are breaking in where angels, in the guise of librarians with eager desire to help humanity, could never dream of treading.



Grace writes in a letter to her teacher:

I did not read aloud at home until about two months ago. I was reading "The casting away of Mrs Lecks and Mrs Aleshine" and it was so comical that I burst out laughing. My brother wanted to know what was making me laugh and I read him a few paragraphs out of the book. He laughed too, and wanted me to read some more. After that he always wants me to read to him if I have an especially good book. Sometimes he reads the book himself.

Jessie, in the seventh grade, tells how brother Tom in the eighth, loves to air his knowledge in manly fashion, and hot rages the discussion almost every night over the books *he* read *last* term, while footsteps lag on the way to bed until mother hurries them away.

Mary told of patient work with brother Tom:

I have a brother 11 years old and he never read aloud. Finally I compelled him to read just one book, and if he doesn't like it he won't read any more. He read Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, and he liked it very much. He reads two books a week now.

Frances has learned a woman's lesson that a man may be reached if she can humour his little weakness: "My older brother does not like to read, but he likes to listen to someone else. He says that he is too big to read to anyone."

"Mother sews faster when I read," beams one small tot, and indeed, many homely scenes come to the mind of the librarian teacher as such observations as the following come from her charges:

"Every evening my brother and I sit around the heater and read. Christmas evening I was reading the Christmas Carol. My brother was so interested in the book that he went up to the library and read it."

"I love to read aloud to my mother when she is darning stockings. She loves to hear me read. She cannot speak English very well, but she understands English and can tell when a person makes a mistake."

Twelve-year-old Golda, born in Russia, has early learned the responsibilities as well as the pleasures of home. "I do all my reading after dinner, when my

dishes are washed, and everything is put away nicely."

Father is not always so amenable as mother to little daughter's earnest efforts to improve his mind. Mary Rosen tells of her shrewd solution of the problem:

"I read from Tom Sawyer and began to read to him 'Helen over the Wall' and he said that he didn't like girls' books, but I didn't pay any attention to him but still read on until I got to an interesting part, and then I stopped reading and wouldn't read any more till the next night and papa was glad to hear me read a girl's book to him."

Mary had more than her share of troubles with her parents for mother, when found reading Mary's book, used her maternal prerogatives and sent Mary to the grocery store. When, upon her return, mother was still reading, Mary rebelled, and mother is now a member of the library herself with her own library card.

A wise bit of philosophy comes from little Marian Kamusher:

"Everyone at home is glad when they have a chance to read my books. I think it makes us all happy to know and to laugh over the same things."

There are many foreign homes, however, to which these books in English, simple as they are, represent too much effort to make reading a pleasure or relaxation. But even to these come our enterprising little Library scouts, and John tells with pride of first reading the "Count of Monte Cristo" and then translating it into Italian for his mother, who could not understand the English version. Margaret Koch, a German child, of the eighth grade, reports: "Grandma don't understand English so I read to her and explain the meaning. I have read 'Little Women' in English and then in German to her. I have also read 'The Crossing' and the 'Crisis' to her. She is now beginning to read the books I bring from the Library."

Perhaps the most significant home reaction now comes through the study of the magazines in the reference and periodical rooms at the library. The heated

class discussion regarding the rights and wrongs involved in the tremendous world war indicates a background of home opinions. Questions are brought to the teacher who refers the ardent patriots or partisans to the magazines which they have been taught to use for themselves. One teacher who has long been in touch with the various phases of library work, considers the drill in the use of magazine

indexes the best work done by the library for the schools.

These teachers, with many others, hand in hand with the librarians are "doing their bit" towards solving the big problem before every citizen, of changing patriotism which is so often little more than lip loyalty, to an understanding, and hence a real love for, the adopted country. M. G. B.

## The One-Room Library

As the one-room library differs from a more pretentious one only in size (that is we are all trying to do the same work on a larger or smaller scale), I suppose more time may be given to the arrangement of the room.

One thinks of a one-room library as one with not over 10,000 books, usually several thousand less.

In so small a library there is usually but one attendant, at the most not more than two, so economy of time is one of the first considerations.

If housed in a room prepared specially for the purpose, the question is much simplified, but if housed in a store room the question is vexing.

In either case there are certain arrangements which should be carried out as experience has found them almost necessary for good service:

The delivery counter should be as close to the entrance as possible.

A convenient place for the catalog case or cases is on the end of the counter so that drawers can be withdrawn from either side.

This places them in easy reach of both the patrons and attendant.

The patrons much prefer open shelves. Of course there are some objections to this as people frequently carry books away from their proper places and deposit them in improper places. But taking all things into consideration where there are few attendants there is much to be said in its favor.

The student soon learns where the books are shelved that he is specially interested in and waits upon himself.

If absolutely impossible to give access to shelves, have a choice lot of books in a bin where the public may handle them.

It pays to devote time enough to regular patrons to teach them the use of the catalog and the shelf arrangement.

It is advisable to keep new and popular books together even when the shelves are open.

The worst feature of a one-room library is the order. It is a very hard task to preserve necessary quiet as the children come from school in bands of 50 or more.

The children's shelves should be near the entrance also near the delivery desk.

The tables containing their magazines should be close by.

It is necessary that children should have low tables and chairs.

The reference corner should be as far away from the entrance as can be to insure quiet as much as possible.

If the building is arranged for a library and stacks are in regular position behind charging counter the center alcove may be arranged for the children's books.

In one library that I know of (the stack room was of course planned for a much larger number of books than the library now contains), the center stack was left out making a very wide alcove.

This is directly behind the counter and contains the children's books, bringing them as close as possible to the attendant.

This alcove contains a low table as the children like to take down a half dozen or more books and look at them.

Here hang the "Goop verses" the Library League motto "clean hearts, clean hands, clean books," also suggested books for reading, such as Indian lists, Bird lists, etc. If later the books are shelved in stacks or wall cases, do not have shelves too high to reach, nor so long that they sag.

There should be chairs in the stacks if the shelves are open to the public.

In arranging books in a new library, it is well to leave both the top and bottom shelves empty, and then do not fill the other shelves. It is impossible to tell where shelf room will be next needed, and shifting books is no easy task.

This one room must frequently serve for work room, and also trustees' meeting room.

One corner can be fitted up with inexpensive screens to hide old magazines and disabled books.

When a library is not kept open all day, there should be a notice outside the building, or inside the glass door stating hours of opening.

Large reading tables may look attractive, but they are not so. Two or three

small ones are much preferable as people who gather in a public reading room are not always congenial and some degree of privacy is desirable.

A few arm chairs are desirable in an adult reading room. Rocking chairs are sometimes used, but personally I dislike them very much.

Chairs in the reading room should be rubber tipped, and the floor should be covered with cork carpet.

If there are no cloak rooms there should be racks for the hanging of coats and hats.

There should be few pictures and these chosen with great care.

The people who wish to decorate the walls with portraits of their dear departed should be discouraged.

Work in a small library has many pleasant features, as one comes in much closer contact with the patron and a feeling of real friendship is engendered.

A one-room library is not an advantage over a more pretentious one, nor is it to be scorned. It is well to use whatever one has to the best of one's ability.

R. S.

### Fiction in War Time

To the Editor:

After we have trained the public to look to us for amusement via the fiction route, why in this time of strain should it be cut off? From what I know of Douglas Fairbanks, he would be the last person to claim any special literary merit for his book, and whoever classifies "Laugh and live" as fiction can be excused only on the ground that she has not even read the table of contents. If just one of my "Pollyanna" readers could be persuaded to take it home I should be in the seventh heaven.

As for the mother who has lost a son, it would hardly be necessary to inflict her with "Laugh and live," but she is far more likely to get genuine comfort from some of the books of today than from those which have been longer on our shelves. Now, if ever, is a belief in immortality voiced in poetry, personal narratives and

I am bold enough to say, in fiction. We do spend an unreasonable proportion upon fiction, but why there should be an hiatus occasioned by not purchasing books of the type of Snaith's "Coming," Wells' "Mr. Britling sees it through," or May Sinclair's "Tree of Heaven" simply because they are fiction; and why no fiction should be bought until after the war is past my comprehension. Librarians have been asked by the government to do everything possible to disseminate knowledge as our part in helping win the war. Where on ante bellum shelves could be found just such knowledge as abounds on every telling page of "Christine" for the one copy of which girls and women eagerly wait? Isn't it short sighted patriotism to exclude such books only because they happen to be fiction or have fiction-conscientious-objectors managed to include "Christine" by so classifying it?

Let us not forget our motto, "The best reading for the greatest number at the least cost," which many times is a new novel, but rather expend a little more effort in finding the really worthy novels. General Foch's maxim urges: "If a problem were not difficult, it would not be a problem. We have been given brains to work with. Otherwise of what use are we?"

Sincerely yours,  
ELIZABETH M. RICHARDS  
Birchard library, Fremont, Ohio.

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

Apropos of novel-reading—

In the delectable story of "Araminta," the old Duchess discovers her not-so-young companion gazing out the window after the retreating form of Lord Cheriton.

"Burden," said the old woman sternly, "where is your list for the circulating library? I shall have to supervise your reading. It is exercising a pernicious influence upon your mind and character."

"Precisely as I thought," said the old lady, with a snort. "Novels, novels, novels! And by male writers. For some time past, Burden, it has been plain to me that an influence has been at work which has been undermining your sense of delicacy. The ordeal of Richard Feverel," by George Meredith. Cross it out. Substitute Mrs Turner's 'Cautionary stories.' 'The Dolly Dialogues,' by Anthony Hope. Cross it out. Substitute 'The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius,' 'An Old Maid's Love Story,' by Anon. Cross it out. Substitute 'The Pleasures of Life,' by Lord Avebury. 'L'Abbe Constantin,' ..... Cross it out. Burden, I forbid you to read French authors until the end of May."

K.

### Time and Substance

In the course of the usual correspondence relating to PUBLIC LIBRARIES, the following letter was written recently:

I have your letter regretting that the report of your meeting which you were good enough to send was not found available. Please let me assure you that the only reason it was not used was its belated arrival. To those outside of your state, the account comes in the form of news. It can hardly be called *news*, can it, when it is the story of what took place nearly five months ago? As a report of the society it would be timely for the members a year afterwards, but timeliness is a most valuable quality when

sending material to what is intended to be an up-to-date library periodical for general distribution.

Will you allow me to point out in the friendliest manner another consideration in preparing either an account or a report of a meeting? To say that Mr Smith gave his interesting opinions on a subject, without stating what the opinions were, tends also to a loss of interest in the material on the part of both the editor and readers—perhaps hearers also. Adjectives and adverbs are good things in their places but nouns and verbs tell more clearly what was done. When a writer does tell what was said in an address it sometimes retrieves the belatedness of the telling. Please send in a "meaty" report of what is said and done in your library meetings and in your library but send it promptly, soon after it occurs. Interest begets interest.

Yours very sincerely,

### Women in War Library Service

EDITOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The extreme sensitiveness of some women engaged in library work to any intimation that the Camp libraries can be better conducted by men than women is a matter of wonderment to those who have had some experience in the work and know its conditions and requirements.

Mr Wyer's statement that the work "is a man's job" can in no way be considered as reflecting on woman's qualifications for library work. Perhaps it was not really *lady-like* for him to say that "women can be used," but that was the expression of a man about a man's work. No man ever thinks he is belittled if he is not selected for a children's librarian, and it would be just as silly for a man to pout if he were told that the management of a children's room is a "woman's job," as it is for a woman when told that the management of a Camp Library, under the present conditions and requirements, is a "man's job."

In the reports and statements of the work at the Camp libraries, made by Mr Wyer and others, there was undoubtedly in mind the social and physical conditions, as well as the main fact that virile men were to be served, and that in addition to the strength and endurance required for the service, the

impression made upon these men by the character of the service rendered, should be taken into consideration.

Mr Wyer was perfectly right in his statement that the work is a "man's job," and if the conditions and requirements are not somewhat modified, I am of the impression that it will be a superman's job.

JOHN C. SICKLEY.

June 8, 1918.

June 14, 1918.

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Thank you very much for letting me see Mr Sickley's letter. I would like to suggest to Mr Sickley that it would be a very good idea to have men serve as children's librarians. He evidently feels that a man would be belittled if he were selected to be a children's librarian. This belief that work with children is a "woman's job" is only another evidence that many men believe that the world is still full of "men's jobs" and jobs on which women can be "used."

Superior physical strength does not necessarily endow men with superior gray matter, and it would seem to be high time for men to disabuse themselves of the notion, in spite of the present world cataclysm, that brute force is the only thing that moves the world.

Mr Sickley, of course, has the same idea of women that Mr Wyer has,—hence this letter. I need say no more.

Yours truly,

BEATRICE WINSER,  
Assistant librarian.

Public library, Newark, N. J.

Dear Editor:—

I see that Mr Wyer thinks supplying books to soldiers a man-sized job, but acknowledges that, in certain auxiliary capacities, women can be used. I see that Miss Winsor mourns because she finds in male librarians the same sort of arrogance once shown by male teachers, male physicians, and male elevator men. I see that Mr Sickley accuses Miss Winsor of pouting, because she is not allowed to play the real game.

Now I am a Pacifist by philosophy, and I hate to see warfare within the ranks of this sacred profession, so conscientiously devoted to Uplift and Enlargement. So I suggest a means of settlement by Experiment.

Let us select a camp, erect in it, at the two foci of its ground plan, twin huts, furnish them with duplicate sets of books, put Miss Winsor in charge of one and Mr Wyer in charge of the other, give no hint of the purpose of the test to the soldiers, and watch results. I am sure that the boys will swarm to the lady's library, just as girls, similarly placed would frequent the gentlemen's. The Lord builds us so. If this is not feasible, take a soldier's vote on the subject, and then let the Y. M. C. A. authorities decide on the personal qualities of the candidates. They have succeeded well in picking canteen workers. A letter from a New Jersey librarianess serving them in France, one of four women among 4,000 men, relates, "While I turned out fudge for one customer, a prospective customer, far down the line, called out, 'Get out of the light, you; we want to watch the lady cook!' Did any gentleman patron ever demand to see Mr Wyer catalog?"

Mr Sickley fails to understand what every womanly woman in the world knows—these camp librarians *are* running children's rooms. Every six-foot performer in the man-sized job of Grim Warfare carries a boy's heart in his bosom, and needs a good woman to serve him somehow every day. The sick and wounded get it from the nurse; the able bodied seek it at hostess house and canteen. They would all be the better for it at the library.

Besides, who is going to take those man-sized jobs that the gentlemen leave when they carry their virility to Newcastle? Not a woman? Then why—Let us pause lest General Crowder begin to look about again. For he believes there are some occupations that really need men.

A JERSEY WOMAN.



### On Time!

A serious and interested member of the A. L. A. sends the following request:

Will you not emphasize in your magazine prompt attendance at the various sessions? It seems manifestly unfair to the speakers to have a delay such as we sometimes suffer of over thirty minutes to an hour. Those who attend the convention at the expense of the various libraries should be especially careful in the matter of punctuality and they do not show courtesy to our speakers by drifting in at any old time on these occasions.

### Criticism Desired

The publishers of the Decimal classification are preparing a revised division for agriculture which will be sent to all libraries of agricultural colleges on the printed lists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and on request to other agricultural librarians. These are requested to examine the scheme critically and send the editor notes of faults or suggestions for improvement.

Address Forest Press, Lake Placid Club, N. Y.

### High School Scrap-Books

The A. L. A. owns a particularly fine collection of high school scrap-books which may be had for a short time just for the asking. These books contain interesting pictures and material on work being done in schools including photos of rooms, arrangement, floor plans, lists of required and voluntary reading, charging systems, outlines of library instruction courses, methods of coöperation with various departments, publicity methods, etc.—in fact all things pertaining to the administration and the work of a modern high school library.

An itinerary for this collection is being planned for the school year of 1918-19. Those desiring the books during next year should send the request to Helen S. Babcock, librarian of Austin high school, Fulton and Lotus Ave., Chicago, prior to September 15, 1918. The books are packed in a small iron bound trunk 12x23, approximate weight 100 pounds, and will be sent C. O. D. from the last place of exhibition to the next and may be kept for a period of two weeks. The

itinerary will be planned to make distances as short as possible, thus reducing the expense of express and loss of time. For those interested in this work, the collection will be a source of help and encouragement and in communities where no provision has been made for high school libraries it should arouse an interest and be a real source of inspiration.

### A Fine Send Off for Vacation

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 20, 1918

My dear Miss Editor:

Will you permit me to say that PUBLIC LIBRARIES gets better and better? I wish it could be considered a war service for every librarian in the United States to take time to read this admirable magazine; it keeps one in touch with what has happened, what is happening and what is about to happen and always has inspiring and suggestive articles for all who are really interested in their work.

Long life to PUBLIC LIBRARIES and to its editor!

Yours sincerely,

EDITH GUERRIER.

\* \* \*

PUBLIC LIBRARIES for June is worth the whole year's subscription and more.

W. D. JOHNSTON,

St. Paul, Minn.

\* \* \*

Congratulations on the June number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES. The articles on business libraries are most opportune.

J. C. DANA.

\* \* \*

I have much pleasure and help every month from reading PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

JOHN RIDINGTON.

University of British Columbia.

\* \* \*

June 8, 1918.

May I send you a word of appreciation for the current number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES? It is especially good.

F. G. AXTELL, Librarian.

MacAlester College, St. Paul, Minn.

\* \* \*

[One roast, *well-done*, came in but is not to be shared with the public.—Editor.]

Monthly—Except August  
and September.

## Public Libraries

Library Bureau, Publishers  
M. E. AHERN, Editor

Subscription - - - - -	\$2 a year	Single number - - - - -	25 cents
Five copies to one library - - - - -	\$8 a year	Foreign subscriptions - - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

### This Vacation Time

The mind cannot lend itself to the gentle wooing of vacation time when all around on every hand is the insistent call for help and more help to win the war. But if library workers have bent the mind and soul and body to the tasks of the year till weariness attends on the day's effort, then is it time to go away from the accustomed tasks, to take new surroundings and even new duties in which to rest the nerves and faculties that are strained, and to bring into action others which perhaps are cramped from disuse. It is no time to sit and do nothing

but it is time in most cases for change of occupation, of thought and of surroundings as far as may be. The end of the great world task overshadowing all others is not in view, then as wise servants, library workers as all other workers must renew, build up, strengthen every resource within and without, that they may be able to endure to the end. PUBLIC LIBRARIES will not appear in August and September but its force will watch and endeavor for new strength and new helpfulness to present in October.

### Save More Food!

A great deal of hard work is being done these days on food conservation, but *more* must be done. The libraries must render greater help than they have yet done. It is not enough to write letters and make exhibits and scatter recipes. The average person in every community is not yet aware of the great necessity for abstaining from the generous use of food stuffs that can be sent abroad. Every day one hears it said, "I can't eat that. I don't like it." Treason! One *can* eat it and it makes no great difference whether one likes it or not if it will sustain life. The duty then of bringing home to the every day people, rich, middle class and poor, alike, the great, appalling fact that people are starving to

death who might live and live effectively if *everybody* here did more than he is doing to get more food over there. Drop recipes and the other fifty ways to use corn and get out the recitals of death from starvation, of the agony of men, women and *children* in France, in Belgium, in Serbia, in Armenia and the other quarters of the earth, that make it a crime not to abstain and save and send to those who are in the midst of the awful conditions brought on by the carnage and destruction of life of every kind. How can one spend time and energy in doing anything that doesn't in some way help to solve the terrible problem before us—How to win this war. To work!

### A. L. A. Meeting of 1918

There is an honest question in the minds of many library workers as to whether the meeting of the A. L. A. this year is going to be quite worth while, in view of the cost of it, of the need of every dollar of every day to meet the increasing demands and opportunities for service, in view of the one great object toward which every energy must be turned to accomplish if life is to be worth living and because distraction may lead away from what seem imperative duties. These and similar ideas will keep a good many from attending. There is no criticism for such. They may be right. But the powers that be have called the meeting and there doubtless will be a goodly number in attendance, though not likely as many as usual.

These circumstances will make it all the more imperative on those who do attend the A. L. A. this year, to lend every assistance possible toward making the spirit of it helpful, hopeful, patriotic in the sense of being unselfish and alert to push the things and people, that will make more effective the efforts of the library circle to help win the war.

There has not been much done in the way of preliminary announcement to induce a large number to attend, so doubtless those who do go will be animated by professional zeal of a high order or a desire or necessity to obtain the help or inspiration that will make possible definite constructive work, or needing what ought to be easily obtained at a national library meeting.

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### Permanency an Asset

The administrative corps in charge of camp library service at Washington under the direction of Dr Putnam has done most admirably in the organization, administration and extension of library service for both military and naval camps in all its ramifications. When the final summing up is made there can be little doubt but that the effect of very valuable work will be plainly patent where library service has had its opportunity in preparing the men in training, in comforting the men in loneliness, in helping the men in discouragement and illness to again reach or to keep the normal status of mentality. The response of the librarians over the country who have been asked to help in the work is also worthy of commendation.

This whole subject is to be the main topic for consideration at the coming

A. L. A. meeting. One phase of it which would seem to be of sufficient importance for careful consideration is, whether it would not be a very desirable because a very effective change in the matter of the appointment of camp librarians. The suggestion is offered that an effort be made to secure from 40 or 50 of the best libraries in the country, perhaps their librarian, perhaps the most efficient member of their staff, to become the permanent librarians of the camp libraries for two years, if not, indeed, for the duration of the war. From comments both within libraries and without, one is led to conclude that there is a loss that is too vital to be overlooked in the present plan of borrowing librarians for two, three or even six months as is done at the present time. It leaves things in a state of expectancy and uncertainty in the libraries

at home. It entails extra expense in the family life on the part of those who are called, besides keeping in a state of indefinite flux plans and properties connected with daily living, while the change so far as it affects the camp library is one that no good librarian would consider leniently in any library in ordinary times.

No librarian is prepared to go at a moment's notice, to leave his library, his family, his business, in answer to a telegram, without entailing loss in all these relations, not to mention personal uneasiness and discomfort. The men in the camp get accustomed to the atmosphere created by one librarian, things are going swimmingly, when they are confronted with an entirely new situation, brought about by a change which they cannot exactly understand. If these camp libraries are good things—and they are, unquestionably—then they ought to be made the very best that they can be made, and this cannot be attained under rotation in office. No business would stand the loss such a thing incurs. Obviously the only thing to be done to obtain the best results is to make the positions permanent for a definite, long period or during the war. If the library feels that it cannot lend its librarian for two years then it would be worth while to levy on that librarian for military library service, meeting or exceeding the salary which he is receiving in his civilian post. This would cost more money, perhaps, than it does at present but it would not be expensive. The best thing is never expensive. These camps ought to have the best library service, as they are having the best of everything else that is obtainable. The money for it will come if it makes itself felt as a valuable factor in the business on hand.

Another aspect that presents itself is the effect that fine library service for

men in the camps, both officers and privates, is going to have on the future of library service of every kind. These men while in service are only the one thing, their country's defense. When they return to their civil life, the things that gave them pleasure and profit while they wore the uniform are going to be much dearer to them from every standpoint than they ever were before. The Y. M. C. A. is a living example of this. Men who scoffed at Y. M. C. A. workers in the beginning of the association's appeal for money ten years ago are today loud in their praise of the organization and its work. Men who knew their libraries only as a Carnegie gift or as a piece of bric-a-brac secured to finish out the perspective of the landscape will come back into civil life realizing its importance to the community as an educational and inspirational institution, or, quite the contrary.

Aside from the noble opportunities for patriotic service offered by good camp libraries, professional zeal or even personal selfishness would urge that everything possible be done in this crucial time to fill up the measure of opportunity at hand. Permanent service would seem to be a vital factor in attaining these desirable ends. Funds are all that are lacking. These will be forthcoming if the purpose for which they are to be used meets general approval. Thus is the circle complete.

### The Dial Goes to New York

Nothing is ever as bad, or as good, perhaps, as it seems in the first instant.

The *Dial* was for nearly 50 years a Chicago institution of which the Midwest was justly proud. That pride began to grow faint as declining strength and years removed the controlling influence of the late Francis F. Brown, who was

world-wide in his outlook and true to the best instincts. After his hand let go the reins, more and more the eyes, the ears, the mind of the *Dial* turned to the East until now, when it picks itself up and flits thither.

At first, one said, "No, it must not be!" But later when second thought shows that it is the breaking of the ties of long association that hurts, one can with something of consent say, "Go, you are no longer of us." What the *Chicago Daily News* calls "the *Dial's* midwestern blindness," and as recently expressed by members of the staff in giving the reasons for going to New York, is so hopeless in understanding of the region of the paper's birth and former career that it is really better that it should go. When it has learned what it will learn in days to come, should there appear to be any of the original left, someone from "the Middle-west" will bring the remains back home for burial.

An article in the *Dial* of May 23 discussing the work of public libraries is so free from any knowledge of the subject that it is not even ludicrous—it is ridiculous. That a paper of the claims of the *Dial* should use it seems ominous as to the future of the latter.

A most pithy commentary on the *Dial's* article on library work is given by Mr. C. B. Roden, librarian of Chicago public library, in the *Literary Supplement* of the *Chicago Daily News* of June 19.

### Give-away Shelf

The occasional leaflet, *Quarterly Bulletin* of the Colorado library association for April, has a department which is called "Give away shelf." Under this is listed books which may be had for the asking—a very praiseworthy endeavor toward helpfulness. PUBLIC LIBRARIES will adopt the principle and be very glad to be the medium of communication by which librarians may inquire for or report material that would properly come under such a head.

### A Sign of Progress

A most interesting forward step was that taken by the Philippine legislature in February as set out in the following act:

*An Act authorizing the Secretary of Justice to grant scholarships to graduates of the College of Liberal Arts of the University of the Philippines to specialize in the United States in bibliography and library science.*  
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Legislature assembled and by the authority of the same:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of Justice is authorized to appoint every two years, upon the recommendation of the Board of Regents of the University of the Philippines, not more than five students who shall have successfully completed the course of library science in the College of Liberal Arts, to complete their studies in said science and in bibliographic science in a university of the United States designated by said Secretary of Justice.

SEC. 2. The sum of twelve thousand pesos is hereby appropriated, out of any funds in the insular treasury not otherwise appropriated, to carry out the purposes of this Act during the year nineteen hundred and eighteen.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect on its approval.

A note from Miss Polk of the University of the Philippines says: "We hope to be able to send five students to begin work in September."

### Significant Publicity

#### A PUBLICITY EXPERT

Paid for cooperatively by libraries

Why should 8,000 libraries be duplicating advertising which in most part is ineffective, unattractive and uneconomical?

A publicity bureau connected with A. L. A. headquarters could prepare advertising material for all.

You will hear from us again. In the meantime think it over.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, PACIFIC NORTH-WEST LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,

C. H. COMPTON, Chairman,  
Seattle public library.

G. W. FULLER,  
Spokane public library.

CORNELIA MARVIN,  
Oregon state Library.

*The librarian from whom you receive this is strongly in favor of the above.*



**Book Agents\***

Naturally I believe that people should purchase books; I believe that the average person buys far fewer than he should; I believe that books are just as necessary to a house as chairs and dishes,—but not subscription books. The average subscription book is usually a worthless hodgepodge thrown together by a staff of cheap hack writers, illustrated with a lot of stock cuts, or trashy pictures in color, and flimsily and flamboyantly bound.

When a book agent gains access to your house, and displays before you a set, in twenty volumes, of "The World's Greatest Bromides" or "The Book of All Human Knowledge," you should remember two things: First, that the best books on all subjects are written by the experts on those subjects, are published by established houses, and are marketed through the regular channels of trade, i. e., the book stores; and second, when one wishes to buy a book there is no reason why one should also pay an agent's commission together with his hotel and traveling expenses. In other words, the person who is trying to sell you the book is probably getting from fifty to seventy-five per cent of the purchase price, which is about three times as much as the regular book store gets.

But if, after the agent has shown you the books, you feel that you absolutely must have them, call up the Library before you sign a contract and find out if they cannot be picked up at a much smaller price, from a bargain catalogue. Most of these books are on the market at all times at a fraction of their price as sold by subscription, and the Library will be very glad to order for you any that it can obtain. It will also be glad to give you any advice it can, as to the merits of any book. The advice will be entirely disinterested; it will cost nothing; and you do not have to follow it unless you wish to.

As an example of possible price saving, last week a book agent called at

the library and announced himself as representing a bankrupt Chicago firm. He had a catalogue showing a long list of standard sets, priced presumably at a mere fraction of their usual selling price. One item was a set of Lossing's Encyclopedia of United States history, in ten volumes, priced at \$24. I turned up our record book, and showed him where I had picked up a similar set in a New York book store for \$3.75.

I myself think it is a mistake to buy complete sets of any author—with the exception of Shakespeare—because about half of what even the most distinguished authors have written is not worth reading except by the professional student of literature. Thackeray, for instance, wrote five great novels,—The Newcomes, Vanity Fair, Pendennis, Henry Esmond and The Virginians, with which everybody should be familiar; but he also wrote fifteen or twenty volumes of burlesques and pot-boilers over which no one need waste his time. Plainly the sensible thing to do is to buy only the five volumes.

Similarly, for some years past there has been a great advertising propaganda exploiting the proposition that one can acquire a liberal education by reading the contents of a book shelf five feet long. That, of course, is arrant nonsense, and I have often wondered how many of the purchasers of the five foot book shelf have progressed farther than the first few inches. However, if you wish to read those books, the sensible thing to do is to buy one at a time in a substantial trade edition, which may be had at from 35c to a dollar, and to read it before buying another.

What I am trying to emphasize is that the library is at the public's service, not only for the issuing of such books as it happens to have, but also for the best advice it has to give as to the best books on any subject, and as to the merits of various editions. It considers it a privilege to be able to serve the public in this way.

\*A letter from the librarian to his constituents.

### Food Will Win the War

Under this slogan many of us have launched forth into a new field and are now maintaining in some corner of our libraries a miniature Home Economics department. Here we exhibit war-time cookery, distribute patriotic recipes, flaunt empty flour sacks at wheat consumers, and glorify The Potato. Might we have a corresponding corner in PUBLIC LIBRARIES headed by the battle cry of the Food Administration? We are exhorted to give out new food facts weekly, to present them so that they will have a wide appeal. It is the duty of even the smallest library to heed this plea of the Food Administration. In spite of the vast amount of material on the subject there comes a week when inspiration flags. The most fertile brain among us appreciates the exchange of ideas that the "Food will win the war" columns in PUBLIC LIBRARIES affords. It affords a very practical supplement to Food News Notes.

#### Frexample—

The housewives of Oskaloosa, Iowa, showed their determination to help win the war in the kitchen by turning out *en masse* to attend the Patriotic Food Show at the Public library on May 4. Believing that exhibits of successful war cookery displayed with the recipe used, and a practical talk on food conservation by an authority, would be the most effective means of helping the average housekeeper, the library coöperated with the home economics departments of Penn college, Oskaloosa high school, and Iowa State college to bring about such results.

Penn college sent a comprehensive exhibit of war breads and cakes. The High school's contribution was a War-time luncheon, attractively set forth on a table loaned by a patriotic furniture store. Interested housewives contributed enough war cookery to fill a long glass display case. Typed recipes accompanied each sample of food. Paper and pencils were provided and the recipes were copied freely. Government and state food leaflets were distributed as well.

At 2 p. m. a Food story hour for boys and girls was held. A popular local reader told "The crowning of the little brown prince," a food fairy tale published by the Food Administration. From the same source came "The patriotic potato," a dialog presented by two grade school boys in spirited fashion. Three girls gave a conservation number, being the reflections of Aunt Jane of Kentucky, Orphant Annie, and a darkey mammy on "this here new Food Conversation."

At the conclusion of the hour the superintendent of schools announced the winners of an essay contest on Food Conservation. As boys and girls in all the schools in town had written essays during the week and the Oskaloosa Commercial club had offered prizes in thrift stamps, considerable interest was aroused.

Then we had to turn out the children to make way for the grown-ups who came to hear Miss Barnett, Extension assistant professor of Home Economics at Iowa State college. She gave a splendid talk on "Practical patriotism for housewives" to 200 women, who will never again apologize to their families for any war dish, be it ever so humble.

What is your library doing in its home economics department? R. B. F.

### Local Collections

The Indiana State Council of Defence has issued an appeal to the public libraries of that state asking that two copies of every communication, poster, program, photograph, etc., which has bearing on the participation of the community in the war be turned over to the local library.

Attention is called to the fact that local historical material relating to community participation in former wars is lacking in many instances in the state. No printed record remains for this generation. The work of gathering this matter from day to day is not laborious. The matter is sufficiently important to warrant attention in every community throughout the country.

### The Book for Boys\*

Mr. Heyliger said in part:

The boy is in a state of development. His imagination is aflame. The heroes of his books are as real to him as his own playmates. He lives in his books; and the messages they contain, be they good or bad, become part of his creed. Unconsciously he absorbs the pulse and the spirit of the tales. He reacts to them; in a sense he is molded by them.

Part of our juvenile literature deals with two tremendously powerful factors in the life of the boy: his school and his sport. Men who have worked with boys for years know that if the big, fundamental truths such as honor and fair play are to be presented to boys, they must be interpreted in terms that boys can understand. The boys understand school; they understand their sports. If a writer, through the thrill and tension of a story, can make them see the meanness and the taint and the tarnish of a victory without honor, will they not carry this ideal with them through life?

Oh, do not be deceived that this is unimportant! Consider for a moment that Germany has no national sport. Consider that her boys have no books dealing with fair play and boyish standards of honor in competition. Perhaps that is why Germany today stands convicted of the foulest crimes against fair play and decency. The Anglo-Saxon cry of "fair field and no favor," has no counterpart in her language. She doesn't understand fair play. We would be dealing with a different Germany perhaps if her boys had been taught that a crooked victory was something to be despised, and if their juvenile literature had driven that lesson home.

The right type of book for boys, that speaks to him in language and terms that he can understand, the book that presents to him an ideal that he willingly adopts as his own, must be considered as something more than a mere

\*Extracts from a speech by William Heyliger before the convention of the American Booksellers' Association, Hotel Astor, May 15.

piece of pleasure-giving fiction. In this day, when a nation blind to fair play and clean hands is drenching the earth with martyred blood, it is a high duty to uphold those books that sound a note of honor and fair dealing. It is the cause, the ideal that counts—with individuals and between nations.

### War and Patriotism for Children

*Children need models more than critics.*—Joubert.

Parents, teachers and librarians come together with requests for books on patriotism, and together we acknowledge the self-evident truth that real patriotism is born of education and of experience and is not a product of books alone. It is nourished by knowledge and memory, and imagination trains and stirs it into action. It is here that we need and must have guidance from books.

No better "reading list" for boys and girls of high school age and older is available than the one recently published by the New York public library. The list and the books may be consulted in all the branch libraries and in the main library. The columns in current numbers of the *St. Nicholas* magazine under the heading *The Watch Tower* can also be recommended for current interest.

Biographies of leaders and heroes, and books on American history have never been more in demand than they are today; this is the outgrowth of work in the school and also of the voluntary reading of our young Americans and is not confined to reading of "new books."

The following list includes books of some interest because of the present war, bought during the past year for the Children's department.

Uncle Sam's Boy at War, by O. F. Austin.  
Facts about methods and devices of modern warfare told in story form.

The Wheat Industry, by N. A. Bengston and Donce Griffith.

Good reading for any one interested in feeding the world, the problem of today.

Story of the Submarine, by Farnham Bishop.  
Gives short history in non-technical language of the various inventions in the development of the submarine.

First Aid for Boys, by N. B. Cole and C. H. Ernst.

Planned for use of boy scout troops.

Boy's Book of Submarines, by A. F. Collins.  
Gives working models for the various mechanical devices.

Junior Plattsburg Manual, by E. B. Garey and O. O. Ellis.

Text-book of physical and military training.

The Flag, by Homer Greene.

Story of a school feud, written to show proper and improper uses of the flag.

You Are the Hope of the World, by Hermann Hagedorn.

The phraseology, in its effort to use terms which will appeal to young America, has been criticized by some, but it remains a stirring appeal and valuable reading for all persons who have to do with the training of youth.

Tales of the Great War, by Henry Newbolt.

Adventures of a subaltern, story of two admirals, story of the Emden, story of a general, war in the air, battle of Jutland. The aim of the author has been not so much to give account of individual deeds of daring as to honor "those who in the hour of greatest need just 'carried on' or 'held the line' when they could do no more."

Heroes of Today, by M. R. Parkman.

Short narrative sketches significant in their relation to some important phase of modern effort. Rupert Brooke, G. W. Goethals and H. C. Hoover included in the list.

The Belgian Twins, by L. F. Perkins.

Based on the actual experience of two Belgian children; others in the book have living originals. For children from 6 to 10 years old. Illustrated by the author.

The Plattsburghers, by A. S. Pier.

Experiences of college boys who spend a month in the training camp at Plattsburg, New York.

All About Aircraft, by Ralph Simmonds.

First published in 1911, revised in 1915.

Bugle Calls of Liberty, by G. V. D. Southworth and P. M. Paine.

Brief extracts from eloquent speeches arranged chronologically, from Patrick Henry to President Wilson.

Boy's Book of Famous Warships, by W. O. Stevens.

Covers time from period of the Vikings down to English Submarine E 7.

Little Book of the Flag, by E. M. Tapnan.

For older children. Contains: Flags that brought the colonists, Pine tree flag, Liberty and liberty poles, Land of many flags, Grand Union flag, Flag of seventeen stripes and stars, etc.

Boy's Life of Lord Kitchener, by H. F. B. Wheeler.

Only the public side of Lord Kitchener's life, traced with particularity of detail.

The Post of Honour, by Richard Wilson.

Brief accounts taken from official announcement of deeds of V. C. winners and other rewards of merit for service of British armies.

Thrilling Deeds of British Airmen, by Eric Wood.

Real deeds of daring which out rival the imaginary ones of old.

—Library Service.

### Vacation Reading

We may see how all things are  
Seas and cities, near and far,  
And the flying fairies' looks,  
In the picture story-books.

Arkansaw bear, by Paine.

Aunt Louisa's books of common things  
by Valentine.

Belgian twins, by Perkins.

Child's garden of verses, by Stevenson.

Every day life in the colonies, by Stone.

Fifty famous stories retold, by Baldwin.

First book of birds, by Miller.

How man makes markets, by Werthner.

In the days of giants, by Brown.

Juan and Juanita, by Baylor.

Little pioneers, by Warren.

Monkey that would not kill, by Drummond.

Old Greek stories, by Baldwin.

Posy ring, by Wiggins and Smith.

Short stories from American history, by Blaisdell.

Stories Mother Nature told her children, by Andrews.

Stories of great Americans for little Americans, by Eggleston.

Story of Lincoln, by Cravens.

Swiss stories and legends, by Froelicher.

Children's department

The Public library of Des Moines, Iowa.

### Ships and Shipping

American bureau of shipping. Rules for building and classing vessels. 1908.

Holms, A. C. Practical shipbuilding. 1916.

Hughes, C. H. Handbook of ship calculations, construction and operation. 1917.

Johnson, E. R. Principles of ocean transportation. 1918.

Knight, A. M. Modern seamanship. 1917.

Peabody, C. H. Naval architecture. 1917.

Simpson, G. Naval construction. 1914.

Taylor, D. W. Speed and power of ships, 1910.

—Berkeley Public Library Bulletin.

"A man," said Dr Johnson, "ought to read as inclination leads him, for what he reads as a task will do him little good." It may be added, as to the projected soldiers' libraries in particular, that they ought to be selected with a view of fostering the inclination to read, and not to compelling the performance of a task, even if there were a way of doing that.

A note from the Rockefeller Foundation announces that the recent report (1918) "The Rockefeller Foundation: a review of its war work, public health activities, and medical education projects, 1911" by President George E. Vincent, will be sent on request without charge to any library desiring it.

### As Others See Us

The following personal letter from an officer's wife sheds light of a certain kind on library conditions over the country. The writer is a college graduate and an unusually broad-minded, intelligent woman:

Ever since I started on my travels this summer I've been meaning to write you a treatise on the library situation in this country! I had no idea how serious it was until some time in May, I think it was. We moved from our island stronghold in Boston Harbor to a fort on the end of "Little Cape Cod," near —, Mass., and feeling naturally elated to get my feet permanently on "terra cotta" again, I ventured forth to test the pleasures of the town. It has come to be our custom to look up the Episcopal church and the library of each new town and these located, to settle down and make ourselves comfortably at home!

Well, in — there is no Episcopal church, and the library is opened gingerly for two hours at a time and that at odd times through the week. If you thought it was from two to four on Monday you'd be sure to find a sign that read "7 to 9 Monday evening." And if you went between 7 and 9 like as not there'd be another sign that said "3 to 5 on Wednesday." Anyway, I seldom succeeded in catching up with them. "They" were two townswomen who sat at a tiny cluttered up desk with their fancy work and gossiped audibly, so that after I finally got in and behind the shelves I never knew whether I'd rather hear the news or look at the books. The news was usually more worth while than the books they had anyway.

In July, my soldier was ordered to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and left me immediately. I stayed behind long enough to pay all the bills and see our lares and penates safely tucked away in storage "for the duration of the war." Then I went to make my habitation among the Indians. There was a church here but we never could catch the minister. As for the library it was a shade better than the one at —. There was only one librarian and so she couldn't gossip. Some eight or ten book agents had combined to stock the place with their unsold wares, we thought. There were lots of things besides, but moth and rust and everything else had combined to corrupt, and they were in an alarming and unsanitary condition so that we were not enthusiastically literary there. After two months and a half there we went to Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont.

Have you ever been to Vermont? Well, it's the loveliest state in the Union! Burlington is near the size of Galveston. The library was run on a system new to me, but we used it with great success and enjoyed it. But we had to move on shortly.

The library in our present locality is on a shelf in the court house! A young woman is paid the magnificent sum of \$20 to see that the janitor doesn't move it away. After seeing it, I decided it must have been in this locality that the story about the little backwoods daughter originated. Some one offered to lend her a book and she said, "No, thank you, we have a book at home."

The Rosenberg library is one of Galveston's brightest spots, in my estimation. Its very memory is a joy. In New York and Boston I was forever comparing the big libraries to ours, and always to the disparagement of the former. The one in New York wasn't so bad, but in Boston the entire staff were in a conspiracy to keep one from getting the book one wanted. They laid themselves out to baffle, confuse, and rebuff one and finally, I always thought, to gloat over their success. So just to fool them, I used to go up merely to look at the Abbey paintings. Aren't they glorious? You are fond of Boston, aren't you? It is my Mecca.

### The Old Hickory Rocker

I came down to the basement, I could not stand it upstairs any longer. My chiefee, the ref. lib. and the prexec of the Woman's club talked about clothes, war cakes and other peoples' babies,—had been at it for an hour. So I came down here to take a rest in the janitor's old hickory rocker. I often do that when I can't stand them upstairs any longer. The janitor is fussing about in a corner. He is quite a character. A Swede or Swiss, or something, I don't know. They say he is president of the board of trustees of his church out on the east end somewhere. I wonder how he would do for president of the Library board. That would be democracy, sure; we'll see after the War.

\* \* \*

I am sitting here, writing on the backs of some Lib. Con. cards that the cataloger has discarded because they had a comma where she wanted a semicolon, or what not. Catalogers are queer ones, they always think they know so much. That B. T. L. has them down pat, and he goes for them all the time. I don't read his stuff, but Jones in the college lib. does, and he hates him; he isn't a cataloger, himself, but he likes ours; he is welcome.



Jones came in the other day. "That B. T. L. has been at it again," he said, "he is always round with his pop-gun." "Hitting anybody?" says I. "No, he has a string to his cork." That was too deep for me. "Cork," I said, "what is that?" Jones just looked at me. "Ever heard of wooden heads?" "Yes."—"Well."

\* \* \*

Jones is a great fellow, always has some yarn or other to tell. Last summer, now, when he had been to the A. L. A., he came over here the day he came back. "I have seen the greatest thing ever," he said. "When I left the conference, I went to see some of the big libraries out East. In one town the librarian himself took me round, and when we were through we went in to his private office to smoke a cigar. That office looked queer, there wasn't a single book there, but a card catalog went all round it. I looked at it for a while, then I asked him what he had there. I thought I would be polite," said Jones, "so I asked: 'books you have read?' The fellow smiled: 'Books I don't want to buy,' he said." Now I don't believe that; it is just something Jones has made up.

\* \* \*

Jones says he is going to get up a new "Who's who"—He is going to call it "LLD's in the Library World." I think he is expecting to get there himself some day, that is why. He is a smart fellow, Jones, and a smooth fellow, that's what goes.

\* \* \*

The other day I got a letter from the editrice of PUB. LIB. with a very curious request. She wanted me to write a paper on the "importance of purely technical books in the public library" and said she understood I was doing very good work as tech. ref. in this joint. Very good. Yesterday I took down some volumes of that paper, to see if it had something on the subject, and was sitting there breaking my head over the stuff, when Jones came in. "What is up?" he asked. "Some clubwoman wants a paper on hairdressing in Abyssinia?" I showed him that

letter. He read it very carefully, then laid it down on my desk and looked at me over his glasses. (I always feel very small when Jones looks at me that way.) "P. Q." he said, "look out. If you have nothing to say except what someone else has said before, and better, don't write a paper about it." Jones makes me tired. He always takes on such airs.—He is not a cataloger!

P. Q. X.

### Under Two Names

In the June number of the *Bulletin* of the Brooklyn public library is given a list of "Aliases discovered among recent books." This term means that a certain number of books were published in the United States under one title and in England under another. The list is annotated clearly and contains the following books:

- Empey—Over the top, United States.
- Empey—From the firestep, Britain.
- Hay—All in it, United States.
- Hay—Carried on after the first hundred thousand, Britain.
- Nobbs—On the right of the British line, United States.
- Nobbs—Englishman Kamerad! Britain.
- Jones—America entangled, United States.
- Jones—The German spy in America, Britain.
- Gibson—Journal from our legation in Belgium, United States.
- Gibson—A diplomatic diary, Britain.
- Chevrillon—England and the war, United States.
- Chevrillon—Britain and the war, Britain.
- Powell—Italy at war and the Allies in the West, United States.
- Powell—With the Italians and the Allies in the West, Britain.
- Dawson—Carry on, United States.
- Dawson—Khaki courage, Britain.
- Tiplady—The cross at the front, United States.
- Tiplady—The kitten in the crater, Britain.
- Bowser—Britain's civilian volunteers, United States.
- Bowser—Story of British V. A. D. work in the Great War, Britain.
- Tinayre—To arms! United States.
- Tinayre—Sacrifice, Britain.
- A Sunny subaltern: Billy's letters from Flanders, United States.
- A Canadian subaltern: Billy's letters to his mother, Britain.
- A Soldier of France to his mother, United States.
- Letters of a soldier, 1914-1915, Britain.
- Benson—The Tortoise, United States.
- Benson—Mr Teddy, Britain.

Bindloss—The girl from Keller's, United States.

Bindloss—Sadie's conquest, Britain.

Purinton—Efficient living, United States.

Purinton—The Business of life, Britain.

Schauffler—Flag Day, 1912.

Schauffler—Our flag in verse and prose, 1918.

Porter—What I have done with birds, 1907.

Porter—Friends in feathers; 1917.

Frazer—Pausanias: and other Greek sketches, 1900.

Frazer—Studies in Greek scenery, legend and history, 1918.

### Food Conservation

The following organizations are ready to supply food publications in foreign languages:

Chicago Hebrew Institute, 1258 Taylor St., Chicago: (1) The impending crisis; (2) Home canning of vegetables and fruits; (3) Food economy in war time; (4) Use of fruits and vegetables. English and Yiddish.

Bristol County agricultural school, Segreganset, Mass.: Bulletin on canning and preservation of fruits and vegetables. Syrian, French, Italian and Portuguese.

Hampden County Improvement league, Springfield, Mass. Cold pack method of canning. Polish.

Massachusetts Agricultural college, Amherst, Mass.: Canning of fruits and vegetables. French, Italian, Lithuanian and Polish.

Massachusetts Board of Food Administration, State House, Boston: Eight leaflets, in Armenian, Finnish, French, Greek, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Swedish, Syrian and Yiddish.

New Hampshire College of Agriculture, Durham, N. H.: Six lessons in preparation of food. French, Greek and Polish.

New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Trenton: Good foods at little cost. Hungarian, Italian, Polish and Yiddish.

Through libraries, properly mobilized, seven-tenths of our population should be reached. There is a library for every 200 square miles of territory and for every 6,000 inhabitants of the United States. Utilize this great organization.

### Camp Library Service

In a report made by Dr Frank P. Hill, to the chairman of the War Service Committee, of his visit to certain camp libraries April 19 to May 20, there are several definite recommendations that are of value.

Dr Hill gives an account of conditions as he found them in the various camps, of impressions made and received by officers of the Y. M. C. A., K. C., J. W. and C. S. organization. He said there was a wonderful spirit of cooperation and comradeship generally. "Everyone was trying to help someone else rather than trying to get all he could for his own organization."

The camp libraries have in most instances overcome any prejudices which existed either towards them and their work or between the various organizations, or between officers and men. He found neatness and dispatch in evidence in all the camps visited. He expresses the opinion that cheap furniture is a poor investment, as it has been found necessary to reinforce it at every building where such purchases have been made. He thinks the libraries generally are too small. His strongest recommendations are with regard to staffs. He recommends very strongly continuous service where possible, and the need for experienced librarians. He thinks inexperienced persons, especially as heads, are a rule detriments when in charge of a camp library. He refers to the fact that the Y. M. C. A. pays good salaries and obtains the best men, when they find such among those who cannot afford to give their services. At one camp the educational secretary and the camp secretary were paid at the rate of \$4,000 to \$6,000 a year. He thinks the librarians should be similarly cared for where it seems advisable. The assistants are adequately paid. The head librarians are not. No library had sufficient help and few libraries made an attempt to keep the work on a schedule. Such a life may lead to a nervous breakdown and can be prevented only by providing a staff large enough to do the work expected of it. He names the ideal staff, to be increased

according to demand, as, one trained librarian, two or three women assistants, and two or three exempted men or men over the draft age.

Dr Hill makes a strong, reasonable plea for the employment of women in this work. He deplores the indiscriminate sending of gift books from libraries without proper sorting. He saw much evidence of books sent from important libraries which showed that little care had been given to sorting and selecting. Dr Hill thinks that if more women could be employed at Headquarters they would be able to render the very best service at Headquarters in an orderly, business-like conduct of affairs, and the men who are now there could be freed to go to the camp libraries.

A minor matter is the letters on the librarian's uniform. In one camp he saw three librarians standing together with the letters on their coat collars pointing in three different directions. At another camp he discovered still another angle of discord. Some librarians wear the letters on their shirt collars.

Dr Hill suggests centers, perhaps eight or ten, for collecting, sorting, selecting and distributing books sent in by nearby libraries. These centers, in charge of competent librarians, would improve this phase of the work and avoid complaints of many camp librarians.

\* \* \*

*The Bulletin* from the Washington headquarters makes an appeal for new fiction for the soldiers. In the three million books recently gathered for camp work there were few 1918 novels. A request that such books be passed on to the soldiers, sailors and marines who are eager for that "new book I saw out," is given emphasis. From the hospitals especially comes a request for up-to-date reading matter.

The book, "Keep our fighters fit—For war and after" has the commendation of the Government. In a special statement on the book, President Wilson says:

I do not believe it an exaggeration to say that no army ever before assembled has had more conscientious and painstaking thought given to the protection and stimulation of its mental, moral and physical

manhood. Every endeavor has been made to surround the men, both here and abroad with the kind of environment which a democracy owes to those who fight in its behalf. In this book the Commissions on Training Camp Activities have represented the government and the government's solicitude that the moral and spiritual resources of the nation should be mobilized behind the troops.

A thorough description is given of the work of the camp libraries, and human sympathy is embodied in the story.

\* \* \*

The camp library at the big Quartermaster Corps camp, Camp Johnston, Florida, furnishes the latest information on the industrial and business occupations with which those in that particular camp are most concerned. The library staff here must be equipped to supply information not only to the thousands of students in the 20 or 30 schools at Camp Johnston but also to the several hundred instructors getting up lectures, organizing courses and writing and publishing text books.

The camp education director says that, "without the library the schools could not do their work effectively or efficiently."

Charles R. Green, librarian of the Massachusetts Agriculture College, has recently joined the staff as special technical reference librarian.

Lloyd W. Josselyn, camp librarian, leads a busy life.

\* \* \*

"So much for the building. The library work at Camp Lewis is now in charge of Mr Edward E. Ruby, who will serve permanently as Camp librarian. Mr Ruby has been professor of Latin at Whitman college, Walla Walla, Wash. He also served as Dean of the college and had general supervision of the college library. Mr Ruby's experience in dealing with young men will make him of great service in the Camp Lewis library.

For assistant librarian we secured Mr Lewis Castle, who had for ten years been employed in Shorey's second hand book store in Seattle. Mr Castle's knowledge of books has already demonstrated his value.

The other two assistants are Mr Rowell and Mr Etzkorn. All four men are men of some education and all have had experience in libraries or with books. They have all of them been anxious to get into some branch of war service and I cannot speak too highly of the fine spirit and enthusiasm they have shown. This spirit and the fact that their abilities supplement each other ought to make the library an effective force in the camp.

For other help we have been indebted to volunteers. They have come in large numbers from Tacoma and Seattle, chiefly from the two public libraries in these cities. We are especially indebted to Miss Johnson and Miss Firmin, head catalogers at Tacoma and Seattle, for their splendid help. Mr Kaiser has been very generous about lending members of his staff. The Tacoma Automobile League for War Service furnished transportation for these volunteers."

#### Fort Oglethorpe, Tenn.

The work at this library is most interesting, largely because the officers and enlisted men take such a lively interest in the books. In March over 11,000 books were issued through the Camp library and its branches. Almost as many, if not more, were read in the library and the Y branches. When one considers the number of men in camp, this is really a remarkable circulation. But what is even more gratifying is the nature of books called for by the soldiers. I would say that 45 percent of the circulation is non-fiction, the heaviest demand being, of course, for books on the war and military science, but the other subjects come in for their share. When the regiments leave, we furnish each man with a book. A number of scrap books came here some time ago from public school children in Chicago. Most of them were turned over to the Base hospital where they were greatly enjoyed by the poor fellows there.

Mr C. D. Johnston, the supervising librarian, spends half his time here and is most anxious that things shall measure up 100 percent in all relations. There are

three other assistants and we all find him most ready to devise means of helpfulness and to appreciate one's best likes.

R. M.

#### What Camp Reading Means

The conditions in favor of the camp libraries are these: Every soldier has from four to five hours of leisure out of each 24. Most of that time comes in an unbroken interval between the end of the day's work and the time for putting out lights in the barracks. The individual soldier spends most of those free evenings on the reservation, and the facilities for amusements other than reading cannot provide for more than a small part of the men at one time. In a military community of 40,000 men, for example, the space in all the amusement rooms and lecture halls and motion picture shows of the Y. M. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, and similar agencies will not accommodate more than 8,000 or 9,000 men at a time. The reading room of the American Library Association will take care of only a few hundred more, but the great advantage of the library is that its facilities circulate and may be taken to the living quarters of the individual users.

Therein lies the great usefulness of the war camp book service. There is no red tape. A soldier needs no identification but his uniform to enable him to take out a book, and he leaves only his name and the designation of his company or battery as security. No hard and fast rules have been drawn to regulate the length of time which a volume may be kept, but so far the desire of a man to finish one book and get another has been a sufficient guarantee of a reasonably early return.—*New York Times*.

There are worse dishonesties than the purloining of money. That is a crass, unfashionable form of thievery. But to rob another of reputation, and of peace of mind, and of happiness, that, the graver sin, is the more common.

### Library War Service of A. L. A.

The book service of the men overseas is keeping pace with the going of the men. Six dispatch offices are now at work. The number of books sent across up to June 8, was 285,300. Dr M. L. Raney, official representative of the A. L. A. in France, has returned and will make a report at the Saratoga meeting.

Mr and Mrs Burton E. Stevenson now represent the library service there. Mr Stevenson is overseeing the distribution abroad of the large number of books being received.

#### Mexican border

Mexican border posts have received 47,000 books for distribution.

Miss Long and Miss McCullough, in charge, call for books on travel and biography, new war books, technical books, books on cavalry and the care of horses. Traveling library boxes have been built to carry 50 books each. These are to remain two months at each post, though they may be returned sooner or kept longer if desirable. As the posts differ widely in needs no arbitrary rules regulating books to be sent are made.

#### Camp librarians

The technical reference use of the camp libraries grows daily. The main library of the camp is becoming largely a reference library and recreational reading is supplied more and more through the branches and stations. Technical books recently ordered for the camp libraries cover a wide field of science and industry. Men in each line of industrial activity in all the camps are coming more and more to seek material from their library. The list of subjects called for is not exceeded, if equalled, in any library in the country. Growth of the service demands an increasing number of camp librarians and assistants. A special appeal is being made for capable men who may be able to serve. Three libraries have been added to the list of large camp libraries, that is, with trained librarians in

charge: Jefferson Barracks, Mo., Mare Island, Calif., and Pelham Bay, N. Y. Large camp libraries now number 42.

At Camp Humphreys, Va., a training school for engineers and skilled mechanics, the library at the invitation of the camp officials has been placed temporarily in a large room of the new administration building.

#### Hospital libraries

Caroline Webster will return to work in the New York State library and Ernestine Rose has taken her place. Miss Florence R. Curtis is now at headquarters as field representative in the hospital library service.

Reports of satisfaction and joy in the use of the books on the part of the patients in the hospitals are multiplying every day.

A uniform for the hospital librarian has been found necessary. It is to be made of natural color pongee. An A. L. A. brassard is worn, and on the wide brown ribbon band around the small panama hat worn with the uniform, the A. L. A. pin is worn.

#### Gift books

It is important that the need of gift books be kept before the public as they will be needed throughout the duration of the war, with the increasing large numbers of men, overseas transportation, and the wearing out of the books now in use. More care should be given to the sorting of books in libraries before preparation and shipment. Time, labor, transportation space, storage and cost are all too valuable to be wasted on books so poor that they must be discarded when they reach the camp. Reports of receipts and shipments should be made twice a month so that the books may be placed where they are most needed.

Reports show that in 30 cities near training stations the local public libraries are in most cases meeting the needs of the men's clubs. Where the demands from such clubs cannot be supplied locally, the A. L. A. will be glad to cooperate.



### Publicity

The chapter on "What men read—and Why" in Edward F. Allen's recent book "Keeping our fighters fit" will probably inform a wide circle of readers of some of the accomplishments of the Library War Service in camps. Newspapers and periodicals, also, are featuring different phases of the work. Librarians are requested to keep local newspapers informed of all developments of the service, so that throughout the summer they will be able to print news notes and stories about all branches of the work.

### Personal notes

Maria C. Brace, librarian of the Public library, Waterloo, Iowa, is in charge of the base hospital library at Camp Dodge.

Charles H. Brown, assistant librarian of the Brooklyn public library, is supervisor of the Brooklyn Dispatch office.

Joseph V. Cargill, assistant librarian of the Milwaukee public library, is librarian at Camp Grant from July 1.

Annette L. Clark, librarian of Public library, New Albany, Indiana, has joined the Headquarters staff.

Glen U. Cleeton, assistant librarian at the State normal school, Kirksville, Mo., is assistant in the Camp Doniphan library.

Charles H. Compton, reference librarian of the Public library, Seattle, has joined Headquarters staff as a field representative.

Miss Reba Davis, librarian of the Iowa State traveling library, is serving half time as assistant to Miss McCollough in the El Paso district of the Mexican Border service, and half time as hospital librarian at Fort Bliss.

Louis H. Dielman, executive secretary of the Peabody Institute of Baltimore, will be librarian at Camp Meade during July and August.

M. S. Dudgeon, who has just completed a period of service at Camp Perry, is planning to spend a large part of his time visiting camps as a field representative of Headquarters.

John E. Fitzpatrick of the Brooklyn public library is now librarian at Camp Mills.

Charles R. Green, librarian of the Massachusetts Agricultural College library, is acting librarian at Camp Johnston.

C. H. Hastings, chief of the Library of Congress card division, is a member of Headquarters staff.

Herbert S. Hirshberg, librarian of the Toledo public library, has been granted leave of absence for two months, to serve as librarian at Camp Perry.

D. Ashley Hooker, technology librarian of the Detroit public library, is acting li-

brarian at Camp Gordon during June, July and August.

Frederick W. Jenkins, librarian of the Russell Sage Foundation, New York City, is in charge of library war service in the vicinity of Pensacola.

Miss Caroline Jones, librarian of the Hazelwood branch, Pittsburgh, is librarian of the U. S. General Hospital No. 1, New York City.

Miss Mary L. Jones, assistant librarian of the Los Angeles county library, has been appointed associate librarian at Camp Kearney.

Miss Mildred H. Lawson, assistant in the reference catalog division, New York public library, is assistant librarian in the U. S. General Hospital No. 1, New York City.

Miss Mary E. Mathews of Brooklyn is agent in the Brooklyn dispatch office.

Noah F. Morrison of Elizabeth, N. J., is assistant at the Camp Upton library.

Miss Anne M. Mulheron, chief of the order department, Los Angeles public library, has been appointed hospital librarian at Camp Cody.

Paul M. Paine, librarian of the Syracuse, N. Y., public library, is organizing the library work in the naval, marine and military stations and camps in the vicinity of Charleston. He has general supervision also over the work at Paris Island.

Franklin H. Price of the Philadelphia free library is in charge of the Philadelphia dispatch office.

Edythe A. Prouty, supervisor of library stations, Cleveland public library, is assisting at the Newport News dispatch office.

Charles A. Read, librarian of the University of Cincinnati, is acting librarian at Camp Sevier.

W. B. Rees, custodian of the San Marino branch of the Los Angeles county library, has been appointed librarian at Mare Island navy yard.

Justus Rice has been released by the St. Louis public library to serve as librarian at Jefferson Barracks.

Azariah S. Root, librarian of Oberlin college, will be librarian at Camp Sherman, July 15 to September 1.

Cecil A. Ross, assistant in the Grand Rapids, Mich., public library, has been appointed assistant at the Camp Gordon library.

W. F. Seward, librarian of the public library, Binghamton, N. Y., is librarian at Camp Bowie for three months.

Miss Grace Shellenberger, supervising librarian of State institutions of Iowa, has been released to organize the library service at Fort Des Moines army hospital.

Clarence E. Sherman, librarian of the public library, Lynn, Mass., is assistant at the Boston dispatch office.

James H. Shoemaker, librarian at Iowa State Teacher's college, is an assistant at the Camp Dodge library.

Truman R. Temple, librarian of the Leavenworth, Kansas, public library, has joined the staff at Headquarters as field representative.

Miss Gertrude Thiebaud, librarian, Peru, Indiana, is librarian for June, July and August at the Walter Reed general hospital, District of Columbia.

Miss Mary L. Titcomb, librarian of the Washington county free library, Hagerstown, Md., has been appointed library organizer at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

George H. Tripp, librarian at New Bedford, Mass., is serving for three months as librarian at Camp Dix.

Gilbert O. Ward, technical librarian of the Cleveland public library, is librarian at Camp Sherman through May, June and part of July.

Miss Marjorie Wilkes, assistant in the public library, Atlanta, Ga., has been appointed hospital librarian at the base hospital, Camp Gordon.

G. F. S.

What to do for Uncle Sam, by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey, is one of the best responses that have been made to the call of the U. S. Bureau of Education and the plea of President Wilson that special emphasis shall be laid on training children for citizenship. In a most delightful fashion the every day duties of home, school, and community life are translated into national service and the boy or girl who catches and absorbs the spirit of the telling will forever afterward deserve the name of a good citizen.

This book is full of practical discussions of every day life but glows with an idealism that transforms the information it contains into romance and kindles a desire even in a grownup to be worthy of all that Uncle Sam does for his children. The two chapters, "Who is Uncle Sam?" and "How to be a good citizen" are beyond criticism in their simple presentation of great truths. Information on every phase of civic activities is clear, accurate and to the point.

A list of government publications under the title "Books Uncle Sam has prepared for boys and girls" covers Agriculture, Birds, Clubwork, Food, Gardening, Poultry, Fruits and Canning—p. 206-214. An index is a valuable reference tool. The illustrations evidently from photographs are in keeping with the text. Here is a book to buy in duplicate for the juvenile department.

### Library Committee, Junior Red Cross

A library committee of the Junior Red Cross has been appointed by Dr H. N. MacCracken, National Director of the Junior Red Cross:

Mr C. C. Certain, Cass Technical high school, Detroit.

Miss Effie L. Power, chief, children's department, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

Miss Elizabeth Knapp, children's department, Public library, Detroit.

The purpose of the committee is to promote library service as one of the means of properly informing children concerning their national life and of preparing them for intelligent participation in the activities of the Junior Red Cross and affiliated organizations.

The method of procedure suggested by the committee is as follows:

I. The co-ordination of library service with Red Cross activities, by

a) Compilation and distribution of reading lists and leaflets published by the Junior Red Cross to be correlated with patriotic and educational programs.

b) The leaflets will be addressed to children on such topics as—

Why we are at war; How boys and girls can help; Heroes at the front; Great national holidays; Men and women of the day; War time changes; How the Red Cross and other organizations help the soldiers and sailors.

c) The publication of illustrated bulletins.

d) The establishment of permanent Red Cross shelves in libraries.

e) Clipping and mounting material of local interest to branches of the Junior Red Cross.

f) Scheduling Junior Red Cross week in libraries.

g) Preparing exhibits of books and pamphlets for advertising the work of the Junior Red Cross.

h) The organization of reading clubs, study clubs and debating clubs which can do Red Cross knitting in libraries without interference with the usual programs.

II. Definite, concerted effort on the part of librarians in helping to save the children of America from the unsettling effects of the war. The stimulation of the imagination, the refreshment of the mind, the creation of new interest, and reading for pure enjoyment are to be valued as immeasurable assets in attaining the purposes of the Junior Red Cross.

The Junior Red Cross library committee hopes to secure the active cooperation of the Library section of the N. E. A. and the A. L. A. committees on Library War Service and on cooperation with educational associations.

Further announcement will be made at the forthcoming meeting of the A. L. A. and of the N. E. A.

### Effect of War Time on One Library

A note on the Public library of Toledo, Ohio, gives the following as some of the things that the war has brought about in that library:

Demands for books on Poland have been so numerous that a complete new stock of books on that country has been necessary.

Novel readers are falling off. Calls for fiction books this spring are 1,000 a month less than last year.

Every book on the war literature shelves, tho new last year, is more worn than the novels bought three years ago. Cards show they have been in constant use.

German books are used only by old men and women who cannot read English. All books showing pro-German tendencies have been removed from the selves.

There is actual contention over who shall have books on military tactics, submarine warfare and aviation next.

Men are reading more—women less. The reading woman has no time outside of her war work for more than the newspapers.

We find that men are reading about electricity, machinery and the useful arts as they never did before the war. They find romance in the technical works.

The war has tended to lift the whole trend of reading. History is read as it never has been before—not only history of this war but of other wars. The uneducated public wants it as well as literary people.

The library is beginning to be a factor in the thinking of many of the people of Toledo who never before gave any thought to it—beyond feeling that it was a place where piles of books were to be seen, but with no personal interest in them.

### Library Department of N. E. A.

#### Officers

President: C. C. Certain, head of the department of English, Cass Technical high school, Detroit, Michigan.

Vice-president: Lucile F. Fargo, librarian, North Central high school, Spokane, Washington.

Secretary: Lucy E. Fay, librarian, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

#### Place of meeting

Lecture hall, Carnegie library.

#### Friday morning, July 5

C. C. Certain, Detroit, Michigan, presiding. War Library Service.

William H. Brett, librarian, Cleveland public library (20 minutes).

Library co-operation with the Junior Red Cross.

Miss Effie L. Power, head of Children's department, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, Pa. (15 minutes).

#### Reports of committees:

1. Normal schools: Emphasis upon library standardization. Willis Kerr, chairman, librarian, Normal School, Emporia, Kansas (15 minutes).

2. Colleges and universities; Harriet Wood, chairman, Library Association, Portland, Oregon (15 minutes).

3. High Schools: Emphasis upon Library War Service. Mary E. Hall, chairman, Girls high school, Brooklyn, N. Y. (15 minutes).

Library department  
Tuesday morning, July 2

C. C. Certain, Detroit, Michigan, presiding.  
I. Subject: Book selection.

Socializing values as a basis of book selection.

James F. Hosc, editor of the *English Journal*, Chicago, Ill. (20 minutes).

The child and the book in War times.

Miss Clara W. Hunt, superintendent, Children's department, Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y. (20 minutes).

Selecting books for high-school boys.

Edwin L. Miller, principal, Northwestern high school, Detroit, Michigan (20 minutes).

II. Subject: Co-operation with the Junior Red Cross.

Library co-operation with Junior Red Cross organizations in rural schools.

O. S. Rice, state supervisor of school libraries, Madison, Wisconsin (20 minutes).

Report of Elementary-school committee: A plan of co-operation with the Junior Red Cross.

Annie S. Cutter, chairman, Children's department, public library, Cleveland, Ohio (15 minutes).

**Joint session of the Library department and  
Secondary department**

Auditorium, Schenley high school.

**Wednesday morning, July 3**

M. R. McDaniel, Oak Park, Illinois, presiding.

The high-school student and the book.  
Robert J. Aley, president, University of Maine, Orono (20 minutes).

Relation of the high-school library to modern educational aims.

J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction, Salem, Oregon.  
Report on High-School Library standardization.

C. C. Certain, chairman, Cass Technical high school, Detroit, Michigan.

Discussion: The point of view of the school administrator.

Jesse N. Newlon, superintendent of schools, Lincoln, Neb. (15 minutes).

The point of view of the director of library training courses.

Miss Sarah N. Bogle, principal, Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Exhibits and demonstration work**

A local library committee with Miss Effie L. Power as chairman, has been organized to further the plans of the Library department of the N. E. A. for the Pittsburgh meeting.

**Exhibits**

An exhibit of scrapbooks, photographs, lists of books, and similar material illustrating library work in elementary, normal, and high schools will be held in connection with the educational exhibit in the corridor near the library in the Schenley high school building. Special features of the exhibit will be a Junior Red Cross library booth, and the traveling exhibit of the National council of teachers of English.

These exhibits are being prepared under the direction of Nina C. Brotherton, supervisor of Work for the schools, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, and Rachel Baldwin, librarian, Allegheny County high school, Pittsburgh.

**Demonstration work**

The Schenley High School library under the direction of Clara Howard, librarian, will be used to demonstrate a fully equipped high-school library including books and furniture.

Story hours will be held to illustrate library methods of story telling.

Examples of co-operative work between the department of English and the library will also be shown in this room.

Lists of books for high-school pupils and teachers will be distributed.

All departments of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh will be open to teachers during the convention, and guides will be provided to show visitors over the building.

A representative collection of children's books for school use arranged by grades will be shown in the Teachers' room. Representative collections for patriotic uses will also be shown.

Lists of books will be distributed.

**Library Meetings**

**Alabama**—The Alabama library association held its annual meeting in Montgomery, May 9-10. There was a good attendance from over the state, and several visitors from other localities. At the opening meeting, Dr Frank P. Hill delivered an address in which he discussed the library war service of the A. L. A. as he had seen it in his tour of inspection. Indeed, the whole tenor of the various meetings followed the line of camp library service.

Dr Thomas M. Owen, president of the association, gave a very comprehensive review of the library work of Alabama, both that which is done for local communities and Alabama's contribution to library war service.

George L. Doty from the Camp McClellan library told of his work. He said the building was situated on a hill and with its blazing electric sign is "a light that cannot be hid." The library is so popular that soldiers are compelled to sit on the floor frequently for lack of chairs, and the librarian works from 13 to 15 hours a day. In addition to the main library, books have been placed in all the available stations in the camp.

Dr Frank D. Slocum, librarian of the Camp Sheridan library, spoke interestingly of the demands made on that library. Serious study and reference work make the greatest demands, but there is also much interest in recreational and in-

spirational reading. He said that camp life is a school for democracy, and the library one of its constructive agencies.

Miss Lila May Chapman, assistant director of the Birmingham public library, described the scores of activities of that great library in meeting the wants of the people of the city. A very interesting Round Table with live discussion closed the meeting.

After the adjournment, the members and their friends enjoyed the unique experience of taking mess in true soldier fashion in one of the near-by mess shacks, and afterwards, a tour of inspection in autos through Camp Sheridan, the Base Hospital and Taylor Aviation Field.

Officers were elected as follows: President, Dr Thomas M. Owen; vice-presidents, Prof J. R. Rutland, Miss Alice Wyman and Carl H. Milam; secretary, Miss Gertrude Ryan; treasurer, Miss Laura Elmore.

GERTRUDE RYAN,  
Secretary.

**Chicago**—The annual meeting of the Chicago library club and the last meeting for the season of 1917-18, was held at Ida Noyes Hall of the University of Chicago, Thursday evening, May 16.

Reports for the year were read by the secretary, the treasurer and the chairman of the membership committee.

At the close of the season of 1916-17 the club had a membership of 282 persons; at the close of the present season there are 415 members, 175 new members having been received during the year.

A report was also heard from the committee appointed to arrange for volunteer work in preparing the books that are to be sent to our soldiers. Work is being done on these books by volunteers from the libraries of the city and large numbers of volumes are being made ready to ship.

Following the business meeting, Mrs Goodspeed of Ida Noyes Hall gave an interesting description of that most beautiful building of its kind in the world and its furnishings and activities, after which the club was divided into groups

and taken on a tour of the building by students, who very kindly and efficiently acted as ushers. Light refreshments and dancing concluded the evening.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Mr J. C. Bay, John Crerar library; first vice-president, Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES; second vice-president, Mr L. R. Blanchard, Newberry library; secretary, Janet M. Green, Chicago public library; treasurer, Winifred Ver Nooy, University of Chicago library.

JANET M. GREEN,  
Secretary.

**Columbia**—The regular meeting of the District of Columbia library association was held Tuesday evening, May 21, in the Public library. The meeting was called by the acting president, Miss Ethel Owen.

The Book campaign committee reported that 57,569 v. and \$105.75 in cash had been collected. Among the agencies enlisted by the committee in the campaign, three made noteworthy records: the Library of Congress (organized in seven teams) with 17,767 v. to its credit, the Public library, with 11,524 and the High Schools and Normal Schools which collected 18,899 v.

Miss Leila Kemmerer reviewed "Dramatic moments in American diplomacy" by Ralph W. Page, son of W. H. Page, U. S. ambassador to England. Miss Kemmerer first took up the physical makeup of the book and recommended it as being a comfortable size to handle, well bound and having good print. The author's purpose she told us was to bring to the reading public a knowledge of the diplomatic service and an appreciation of its importance; he does not attempt to cover the whole ground, only the more noteworthy events connected with the diplomatic service, nor does he expect to add anything to its history. The author has been most happy in the suggestiveness of his title, and also in his choice of chapter headings. The first chapter, "Benevolent neutrality," reads like a romance, though only the statement of sober fact. One interesting incident Miss Kemmerer



mentioned, the attempt of the Germans to take a hand in the Manila Bay affair, an attempt which was frustrated by the British, one of the many times when, according to the author, the friendly services of the British navy have been enlisted in our behalf. Miss Kemmerer compared the book with C. R. Fish's American diplomacy; the latter is the more scholarly book and intended for the student; the former is for the general reader and brings out the more personal side of the events treated. Mr Page's book makes an admirable supplement to that of Prof. Fish. Mr. Roosevelt said of it that it was at the same time both interesting and truthful, a good characterization in a nutshell. It would be a useful book in any library, large or small, and seems likely to accomplish the purpose of its author.

Dr Arthur J. Klein of the Service bureau then spoke on "The Service Bureau,—the librarian and the information game." Mr Klein referred to his appeal at the March meeting of the association for the assistance of librarians in the work of listing and arranging information, and the splendid response to that appeal. He expressed his appreciation of the sacrifice entailed on many of the libraries in putting aside for the time some of their own lines of work in order to enable their assistants to aid in the work at the Service Bureau. The Service Bureau was created by executive order, March 19, 1918, its purpose being to establish a place where information concerning all government activities, the personnel, location and function of all bureaus, offices, etc., could be found; to give to the man coming to Washington to transact business with the Government exact information as to where the person or office he desires to find is situated, so that he shall not waste precious time in going from place to place, as has been too often the case heretofore. Three bureaus of information were already in existence when the Service Bureau was inaugurated, but none of these were well situated, nor did they have the funds to carry on the work nor the authority to require from

the various Government departments the information necessary to make such a service of value. The Service Bureau was given the funds, the authority to ask for information and has recently moved into a central position at Fifteenth and G streets.

The Service Bureau is the dispenser of fleeting information, historical records are not within its scope; it looks to the libraries for such material and expects to refer to them inquiries which have to do with technical research questions and "historical information," that is anything over a month old.

The president then read the questions which had been submitted:

1. Where can be secured a list of Associations of employers?

Mr Meyere reported that at the Library of Congress they used "Convention dates" successor to Russell's Convention dates but did not find it very satisfactory; Mr Houghton recommended U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Publ. no. 61, Misc. Ser. "Commercial organization of the United States," revised July 1, 1917. In using this one has to do some searching for information as the arrangement is by location but Mr Houghton kindly gave the pages on which he found the desired information as follows: p. 27, 30, 33, 35<sup>2</sup>, 47<sup>2</sup>, 52, 54, 66, 67, 68, 74, 82, 85, 86<sup>2</sup>, 90, 92, 100, 115.

2. What libraries in the city are currently indexing trade and other journals?

Miss Cross reported that the library of the Department of Commerce is indexing on cards about 3,000 journals.

Miss Stone drew attention to the fact that the Bureau of Railway Economics made a practice of indexing all the more important articles dealing with the subject of railways.

3. Is there any place in the city where the various questionnaires sent out by the Government are collected?

Joint Board on Minerals and Derivatives located at the Geological Survey collects those on its own subject but gets many others also; the questionnaire sent out by the Census gives much information as to the questionnaires previously sent out by other government agencies. —

4. Has this association designated a depository of the bibliographies compiled by the various libraries in Washington?

Nothing has been done in regard to this matter by the association. Mr Meyer speaking as chief of the Division of bibliography of the Library of Congress, urged the necessity for collecting such bibliographical material, and suggested the Division of Bibliography as the logical depository. He said that there was a feeling that after this war the United States would be looked to more and more for research work in all lines and that we should be preparing for the demands that were sure to be made upon us. The Library of Congress should be the clearing house for all information as to what scientific or other investigations are being undertaken and as to what bibliographical material has already been compiled on various subjects.

5. Which two press clipping bureaus cover the broadest field and give generally the best service?

To this question several people murmured "None."

A vote was taken resulting in a decision to visit Camp Meade and see a Camp library in operation.

ALICE C. ATWOOD,

Secretary.

**Massachusetts**—The Massachusetts library club held its Spring meeting at Camp Devens on May 29. Many of the visitors from the neighborhood of Boston and from nearby places west of Ayer came over the road in auto busses and made a tour of the cantonment before luncheon, which was served at the Hostess house. After luncheon, the visitors were welcomed at the Camp library and were given an opportunity to examine the collection of books, and the methods under which the work is carried on. The formal meeting of the club was held in the Liberty theatre, Miss Katharine P. Loring presiding. At the business session, the following officers were elected for the coming year:

President, Mr John Adams Lowe; vice-presidents, Mr John G. Moulton, Mr Harold T. Dougherty, Miss E. Kathleen Jones; treasurer, Mr George L.

Lewis; secretary, Mr Orlando C. Davis; recorder, Mr Frank H. Whitmore.

Following the business session, Mr Harold J. Laski, lecturer on History at Harvard and a former editor of the *New Republic*, gave a brilliant address on "The choice of books in America." In addition to his observations in this country Mr Laski spoke from the vantage point of his Oxford experiences. Mr Laski found many conditions surrounding the selection of books which call for improvement and he made a strong appeal for greater care in the choice of books generally read. One has a sense of bewilderment, he said, as to where the old books are to be found. A number of well-known American book stores were mentioned but he did not find them comparable, either in number or quality, to the book shops of London. Mr Laski thought that the thing the libraries can best do is to encourage the purchase of desirable books. He commented unfavorably on the nature of magazines in America. The average American book becomes a remainder in six months and he wondered why this should be so. Mr Laski considered that the generation which produced Hamilton and Madison can hold its own with any contemporary period in Europe, but not as much can be said, he thought, for later periods.

He regarded Croly's "The promise of American life" as a founding point in political thought, however. He wished to encourage better relations between booksellers and librarians and he urged the frequent exhibition of books. If he could have two existences Mr Laski declared that he would devote the first of these to becoming a book-seller and the second to becoming a librarian.

Following the address by Mr Laski, Mr Wyer, director of the New York state library, spoke of his impressions, gained during recent visits, of a number of camp libraries in the South and Middle West. He spoke with much enthusiasm of the service which the libraries are performing and he reviewed some salient features of the work. The quality of the books already purchased has been commended and it was Mr Wyer's opinion that the Library War Service of

the A. L. A. compares favorably with the work of any other welfare agency

FRANK H. WHITMORE,  
Recorder.

**New York**—A joint meeting of the Northern New York library club and the State institute was held at the Flower memorial library, Watertown, Friday, May 17. There were 40 members present from 14 libraries.

The morning session was given up to business, and the following speakers gave brief talks: Dr Hayt, president of the club, on the general topic for consideration, The library's help in winning the war; Miss Phelps of the State library on the work being done at Albany in preparing books for the soldiers; Mrs Francis H. Lamon, president of the Northern New York federation of women's clubs, on the need of sending books to the soldiers; W. I. Roe, manager of the County Farm bureau, on the help of the library to this bureau; Henry N. Brown, chairman of the War Savings committee, on the sale of War Savings and Thrift stamps, and advertising in books by means of book marks, etc.; Miss Katherine Perine of the Flower library, on work with children.

In the afternoon, Mrs R. J. Buck of the Jefferson County Red Cross, gave an interesting talk, showing how the library may help the Red Cross; D. L. Cornwell, County Food Administrator, spoke of the importance of food conservation; Miss Mary Hasbrouck of the Ogdensburg library led the conference for small libraries, and Miss Bemis of the Flower library, gave a very interesting review of recent war books.

The following officers for the two ensuing years were elected:

President, Miss Mary K. Hasbrouck, Ogdensburg library; vice-president, Mrs Harriett Merrill, Carthage High School library; secretary, Miss Mollie Parker, of Gouverneur library; treasurer, Mrs A. L. Williams, of Clayton library.

JANE NAUGHTON,  
Secretary.

The May meeting of the New York library club was held at the Metropolitan museum of art, Wednesday, May 22.

The President, Mr Lydenberg, announced a program on "Great illustrated books."

The first speaker was Mr William M. Ivins, curator of prints at the Metropolitan museum, who read a paper on Books and their illustrations. He said that the only really, truly books were the picture books and he made a plea for catalogers to pay more attention to prints in books than they have done hitherto. He said the absence of bibliographies which deal with prints in a serious way makes it very difficult to trace the history of a print or to know its value. He illustrated his paper with rare examples from the museum's collection.

George Parker Winship, librarian of the Harry Elkins Widener library at Harvard, followed, speaking on European manuscripts. He brought out the fact that the long reign of peace during the thirteenth century made it possible to accumulate money and to develop the arts, and it was during this period that the most valuable of the European manuscripts were produced, most of which are in the Bibliothèque Nationale.

Prof Abraham Yohannan, of Columbia university, finished the program with a paper on Persian illustrated books. He referred to the Persian language as being made for poetry and said that the manuscripts were collections of poetry and stories, that calligraphy was considered one of the highest arts and that next came drawing and painting. He described Persian art as free, easy, natural and treated with directness, though the artist used no perspective, light or shade.

At the business meeting, the following officers and members of the council were elected:

President, Josephine A. Rathbone; vice-president, Franklin F. Hopper; secretary, Edith H. John; treasurer, Ralph M. Dunbar; for the council,

Harrison W. Craver, Isadore G. Mudge, Florence Overton, Charles C. Williamson.

It was voted that the money usually spent on refreshments at the annual meeting be donated to the Red Cross.

Mr Lydenberg then announced Miss Rathbone as the new president and thanked all the members of the club for the hearty support given to him and his administration.

Miss Rathbone announced that a new dispatch office had been opened at 31 East 15th St. for sending books to camps and overseas, that help was urgently needed and she asked members to devote some time to this, librarians' most legitimate part in war work, after which the meeting adjourned.

ELEANOR ROPER, Secretary.

**Puget Sound**—The Library club held a meeting at Everett, June 5. The morning session was devoted to the recital of Experiments in retrenchment led by Elizabeth Topping, librarian at Everett. At the afternoon session, Mrs Jennie C. Engell of Tacoma addressed the meeting on Retrenchment policies and circulation results. Public service was presented by Helen G. Stewart.

Charles H. Compton, of the Public library, Seattle, was elected president of the club which will have its next meeting in December, in Seattle.

**Rhode Island**—The annual meeting of the Rhode Island library association was held, May 27, at the Rhode Island normal school with the president in the chair. Mr Walter E. Ranger, state commissioner of public schools, spoke of the splendid library work being done in the state, in his address of welcome. In connection with the book campaign he stated that 68,000 books had been collected and 33,000 distributed.

In closing, he spoke of the petition, signed by 40 representatives of the state, asking the State Board of Education to consider providing a course in library training at the normal school. He stated that he believed that it would be a desirable plan for the benefit of the interests of the state, and that he would cooperate to the utmost in the movement.

Mr William E. Foster presented a strong resolution in favor of such a school, which was unanimously adopted.

Mrs Anna P. C. Mowry, librarian of the Manville public library, gave a report on "What the Summer school library course meant to me."

Mr Robert M. Brown of the Geographical department of the Rhode Island normal school gave a most interesting talk on "Charts and maps showing food areas." These maps are the result of several years' study by Mr Brown and give interesting, detailed information regarding the agriculture and industry of Rhode Island, that is to be obtained nowhere else. Mr Brown would be glad to loan these charts to any library desiring such exhibits who may communicate with him.

Mrs Walter Stokes Irons, State chairman of the Educational department of the Woman's committee of the Council of National Defense, spoke on "The co-operation between the library and the Council of Defense."

The following officers were elected:

President, Bertha H. Lyman; vice-president, William D. Goddard; vice-president, George E. Hinckley; corresponding secretary, Marion A. Cooke; recording secretary, Amey C. Wilbur; treasurer, Laurence M. Shaw; executive committee, Joseph L. Peacock, Lillian L. Davenport, Phebe A. Parker.

After a social hour, luncheon was served through the courtesy of Mr Ranger and Mr Alger.

The speaker at the afternoon session was Dr Samuel McChord Crothers, whose subject was "The Awakening of America." This inspiring address was given with a prophet's note.

Mrs Francis W. Wetmore gave a four minute talk on "Americanization of alien population." She called attention to the course on this subject to be given at the Rhode Island normal school, provided enough people register for the course. She urged all patriotic women to register and so fit themselves for a much needed service.

AMEY C. WILBUR,  
Recorder.

### Interesting Things in Print

A list of Government publications called forth by the war was published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture library, December, 1917. A Supplement has just been issued covering *Emergency Fleet News, Food Survey, Public Roads, U. S. Employment Service Bulletin, Vocational Summary, The War Saver.*

The U. S. Food Administration for Illinois through its Library publicity committee has issued a list of references on small fruits. The list includes books, periodical material and pamphlets. The variety of small fruits for Illinois recommended by the department of Horticulture, University of Illinois, is also included.

The *Bibliography of Food Economy for the Housewife* published by the State college of Washington as *Home Economics Series No. 2* will not be reprinted again. The Library director for Washington under the Federal Food Administration announces that when the present edition is exhausted, it will not be possible to furnish further copies of the list.

The May number of *Food News Notes for Public Libraries*, reviews magazine conservation articles for May and contains a list of articles by the Food Administration, a list of references on flour and meals other than wheat, and the usual number of splendid sentences for use on bulletin boards in libraries. A description of food exhibits and a list of substitutes for wheat are some of the significant points.

*Bulletin Number 1* of the Federal Board for vocational education is a statement of its policies. These are set out very plainly so that anyone need have no misunderstanding as to just what is offered. By a series of questions and answers relating to vocational education along various lines every seemingly possible point is made clear. Libraries could use these in a very helpful way.

A dramatization of the story, "The man without a country" by Edward Everett Hale has been published by

Samuel French of New York. The play was written by Elizabeth McFadden and Agnes Crimmins. Miss McFadden was formerly on the staff of the Cincinnati public library, but in recent years has been doing noteworthy literary work. Several of her plays have reached the point marked "successful."

The Public library for Rochester, New York, has just issued a list of serials in the libraries of Rochester. The project of the publication was started six years ago, shortly after the library was organized. The list shows the unexpected wealth of periodical literature which will doubtless become extremely useful to the reading public of Rochester. Mr Yust in speaking of it says, "Its preparation and publication have promoted a library cooperation which is of much value to both libraries and readers."

The Book Shop for Boys and Girls (264 Boylston Street, Boston) has issued a most attractive booklet dressed in gray and silver-green which contains a classified list of "Out of Door" books. It presents a list of such original books for young people in high school and college and at the same time is intended to aid teachers in linking English and science work by suggesting books that are well written scientifically and accurately and yet interesting enough to appeal to high school students.

"Outlines of a general policy of library development," has been issued by the Newberry library, Chicago. In this pamphlet (14 pages), is set out clearly and definitely the scope and place of the library in accordance with its own opportunity and aims as well as in its relations in the library field and to individual libraries of Chicago and vicinity. The general principle is held of avoiding unnecessary duplication, but with careful attention to the particular province of the Newberry library—the field of humanities as embraced in history and literature.

The library now has 375,000 books, pamphlets, manuscripts, etc.



**Library Schools****California state library**

Beginning on the first of May, members of the class have visited the Yolo County Free Library at Woodland, a short distance from Sacramento. The girls made the trip two at a time, spending the full day at the library. Each student was supplied with a sheet of questions to be answered, covering in detail the operation of the County library.

During the month, several outside lecturers have visited the school. On May 21, Robert E. Cowan of San Francisco spoke to the class on California bibliography. On May 24, Dr Aurelia H. Reinhardt, president of Mills college, gave a most inspiring talk on what librarians can do to help win the war. On May 31, Dr Margaret S. McNaught, Commissioner of elementary schools, spoke on the possibilities of library work in connection with the rural schools.

**Carnegie library, Atlanta**

Dr Frank P. Hill, librarian of Brooklyn, talked to the class on May 14 giving a sketch of the war work of the A. L. A. as he was seeing it in his visits to the camp libraries.

Dr A. S. Root of Oberlin college, gave the graduation address, on "The value of a library in a democracy," on June 1. Dr Root also discussed "The use of the college or school library by the community" on May 31.

At the annual meeting of the Graduates' association it was voted to purchase a victrola for use at Fort MacPherson hospital as a contribution to war relief work.

The following appointments, class of 1918, were made:

Serena Bailey, assistant, Public library, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Helen Brackett, assistant, Carnegie library of Atlanta.

Clara Crawford, librarian, State normal school, Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Annie Maud Dawson, assistant, University of Georgia library.

Irene Holloway, assistant, Carnegie library of Atlanta.

Genevieve White, assistant, Catalog division, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Carrie Williams, assistant, Carnegie library of Atlanta.

Mattie Bibb Edmonson, '06, is in the Public library in Montgomery, Ala.

Loretta Chappell, '16, is assistant in the Carnegie library, Columbus, Ga.

Lucille Cobb, '14, has resigned her position in the Ordnance department at Washington.

Fanny Hinton, '17, is head of the reference department of the Carnegie library of Atlanta.

Margaret Jones, '16, is a cataloger in the Virginia state library.

Mary Mullen, '10, has resigned as assistant in the State normal school, Greensboro, North Carolina, to take a position in Alabama state department of archives and history, Montgomery.

Mary Bell Palmer, '09, has resigned as librarian of the Carnegie library, Charlotte. In September, Miss Palmer joins the faculty of the Atlanta library school as instructor.

Annie Pierce, '12, has been appointed librarian of the Carnegie library of Charlotte, North Carolina.

May Smith, '14, was married on March 30, 1918, to Albert A. Rayle, second lieutenant, Medical Corps.

Mrs Crown Torrence, '17, has been appointed children's librarian of the Columbus branch, New York public library.

Catherine Walker, '13, is acting as assistant in the Camp library at Camp Gordon.

**TOMMIE DORA BARKER,**  
Director.

**Carnegie library school**

An examination for entrance to the apprentice class was held Saturday, June 8. A second examination will be held September 14. The class work will begin October 1, 1918.

Mr Thomas L. Montgomery, State librarian, Harrisburg, Pa., spoke to the students on Library legislation May 11.

Students of the 1917-18 class have positions for the coming year in the following libraries:

Dorothy Beeken in the New York public library.

Margaret R. Crabbe in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Marguerite Fahrni in the Portland Library association.

Helen K. Fletcher in the Detroit public library.

Florence Gould in the Tacoma Public library.

Leah Helen Hughes in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Helen L. Jackson in the Detroit public library.

Anna Ruth Jamison in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Mrs Esther Porter-Bliss in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Hazel Knobloch in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Helen K. Carson, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Julia Starkey, Public library, Eau Claire, Wis.

Ruth Van Kirk, in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Margaret G. Weatherup in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Ellen Yoder, in the East Chicago public library, Indiana.

Susanna Young in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Ebba E. Zetterberg in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Miss Rose has resigned her position as assistant principal of the Carnegie library school to accept a position August 1, as executive secretary of the Americanization department of the Pennsylvania committee on Public Safety and Council of National Defense, Allegheny County.

Miss Rose goes to Washington July 1, as assistant in charge of hospital library work in the War Library Service for the month of July.

Alice A. Blanchard, '07, has resigned as head of the children's work, Newark, N. J. Her present address is Montpelier, Vt.

Alice P. Burgess, '15, has resigned her position in the Detroit public library. Miss Burgess' temporary address is Royal Oak, Mich.

Alice Goddard, '03, has been granted leave of absence from Perth Amboy, N. J., to do reconstruction work in France.

Grace Shellenberger, '14, supervising librarian of the Institution libraries of Iowa, has been granted leave of absence to organize the Base Hospital library at Des Moines, Ia.

Mildred Subers, '14, was married June 12 to Henry Havelock Simpson. Mr and Mrs Simpson will be at home after September first at 19 Mowry St., Chester, Pa.

Lillian Sullivan, '16, was married June 4, to Dr Harry Nevin Malone.

#### University of Illinois

During May, the school had the privilege of hearing two lectures by Miss S. C. N. Bogle, principal of the Carnegie library school of Pittsburgh. On May 7, she spoke on the Coöperation between the public schools and public libraries of Pittsburgh and on the following afternoon on the Children's work done by the

Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. The faculty and heads of departments of the library staff gave Miss Bogle a dinner at the University club.

Two lectures on the subject of camp libraries were given to the school, one from the Headquarters' point of view by Mr Utley and a few days later, one by Mr Strohm who has been camp librarian at Camp Gordon. The talks were naturally different in purpose and content and each speaker met an intensely interested audience.

The school regrets to announce the resignation of Miss Sabra W. Vought, who will leave at the close of the summer session after two years in the service, and Miss Emma Felsenthal, B. L. S. '12, who for the past six years has taught book selection and also been a member of the reference department of the library.

The work of these two women has been of great value to the school and the best wishes of students and faculty go with them.

Miss Curtis of the faculty joined the War Headquarters' staff in Washington June 4 and will spend a large part of the summer there.

Since the last report, three more of the students have left to enter military service: Everett O. Fontaine at Ft. Wright, New York; Harry Amsterdam, Jefferson Barracks, Mo.; Will H. Collins, Camp Cody, New Mexico.

The school made a visit to Decatur and Springfield on May 17-18, in charge of Miss Bond and Miss Vought. The group numbered about 30.

At the annual commencement of the University June 12th, the following received the degree of B. L. S., final scholarship honors being awarded to Mr. Robinson Spencer:

Mary Grace Barnes, Anne Morris Boyd, Edith Elizabeth Hague, Elizabeth Henry, Frances Grace Klank, Ethel Gyola Kratz, Angeline McNeill, Wilma Loy Shelton, Robinson Spencer, Sallie McCormick Vought, Olga Louise Waller.

#### Appointments

Josephine A. Cushman, Akron (Ohio) public library (temporary).

Lena M. Johnson, High School library, Amboy.

Eleanor Ruth Jones, Douglas Township public library, Gilman.

Kate S. Kepler, Coe college, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Ena Oertli, Public library, Forest Park.

Rose P. Pierce, Public library, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Bessie J. Reed, High school library, Fairmount, W. Va.

Julia Rogers, Public library, Rockford.

Robinson Spencer, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

Edith C. Ware, Ordnance department, Washington, D. C.

Eleanor Frances Warren, Public library, Shelbyville.

Edna B. White, Kansas State Agriculture library, Manhattan, Kans.

Gertrude Wulfekoetter, Public library, Cincinnati, Ohio.

FRANCES SIMPSON,  
Assistant director.

#### Los Angeles public library

The faculty and students of the Library school formed one section of the library delegation in the great Red Cross parade May 18.

On May 28, the Alumni gave a tea in the school room in honor of Mrs Brewitt, who has accepted a position as librarian of the Alhambra public library. Representatives of the five classes she has taught were present to assure her of their appreciation of the wonderful work she has done. Under her direction the school has developed from a training class to a library school and the inspiration of her professional ideals has left a marked impression on the Los Angeles library as well as on the other libraries where the graduates of the school are at work. As a tangible evidence of their regard, Mrs Brewitt was given a mahogany tea-wagon.

#### Appointment in class, 1918

Geraldine Graham has been appointed assistant in charge of work with schools in the Colusa County library.

Marion Gregory has been chosen librarian of the Sierra Madre public library.

Frank Hout has been made an assistant in the order department of the Oregon state library.

Sidney Anne McClees has been appointed children's librarian at Vernon branch of the Los Angeles public library.

Ella Miller has been made an assistant in the Branches headquarters of the Los Angeles public library.

Gabrielle Morton has a temporary position in the Santa Barbara public library.

Isabelle Park is to have charge of work with schools in the Stanislaus County library.

Geraldine Shipley has been appointed assistant in the Long Beach public library.

Elizabeth Williams has been chosen assistant in the order department of the Los Angeles public library.

#### New York public library

New assignments to camp library positions include Mrs Katharine Maynard, 1913-15, who has gone to Camp Devens, and Louis Fox who has been taking work has just left for Camp Upton is of this year's class. Clara Larson, 1914-15, is an index-and-catalog clerk in the U. S. bureau of ordnance. Mrs Helen W. Grannis, 1915-17, sailed in May to act as a file-clerk for the American Red Cross in France. Henrietta Mackzum, 1915-17, is in charge of the filing section in the Lubrication department of the U. S. signal corps, at Washington. Alice Rupp, 1913-15, is with the Embarkation division of the U. S. War Department.

Miss Sarah B. Askew spoke on May 2 on the topic "How the local library may avail itself of the help of the library commission." Mr Kazu Norisugi, inspector-general of the Japanese department of education, on May 16 gave an interesting presentation of library conditions in his native country. On May 22, Mr R. R. Bowker discussed the relation of the librarian to his board of trustees. War service has been represented by a talk by Mr W. H. Brett concerning his work in the A. L. A. dispatch office at Newport News, and by an illustrated lecture in which Mr T. W. Koch gave his impression of England in war time and told of some of the conditions surrounding censorship and importation.

The annual meeting of the alumni association took place on the evening of June 6, and the commencement exercises on Friday morning, June 7. The commencement speaker was Dr W. N. C. Carlton, librarian of the Newberry library, Chicago. Dr Carlton presented in a most helpful way the librarian's opportunity to serve as the champion of liberal learning.

Diplomas were awarded to 21 students, among whom were Louise Marie Boer-

lage, Amsterdam, Holland; Eleanor folliott Duncan, Dublin, Ireland, and Lurene McDonald, Toronto, Canada.

There were 20 students who received certificates.

Special entrance examinations will be held on Saturday, August 31.

ERNEST J. REECE,  
Principal.

#### New York state library

At the commencement exercises held June 14, the address to the graduating class was given by Mr R. R. Bowker. His general subject was "Librarianship as a profession". Dr Thomas E. Finegan, Deputy commissioner of education, in the absence of President John H. Finley, conferred the degree of Bachelor of Library Science on the following members of the senior class:

Charles M. Baker, Mary Bunce Brewster, Edith M. Buck, Frances Dorrance, Nellie Mignon Fisher, Nathan R. Levin, Elinor Edna Randall, Mary M. Shaver, Nancy H. Todd, Florence M. Waller.

The class of 1919 has presented the school with two tea stands.

The summer session will include only the second of the three-weeks sessions originally planned. It will begin June 26 and end July 17. The library institute for high school teachers which was to be held July 9-26 will also be combined with the summer session. The number of applicants is much below normal. The principal causes given are financial stringency, difficulty and expense of travel and the pressing demands of all kinds of war service.

Carl L. Cannon and James L. Hodgson of the class of 1917 have been mustered into the National army. Several other alumni have been appointed to positions in camp libraries and other civilian service relating to the war. These will be found under their names, as they are reported by the War Service committee.

Six members of the junior class have been appointed to the following positions for the summer months:

Margery Bedinger, assistant in the Technology division, New York public library.

Elisa Jebsen, catalog assistant, Harvard College library.

Martha Ott, assistant, Public library, Franklin, Ind.

Julie Rummelehoff and Margaret J. Scott, assistants in the reference-catalog section, New York public library.

Ruth E. Smith, assistant, Smith College library.

F. K. WALTER.

#### Pratt Institute

The question is often asked as to how much the high price of living has increased the cost of the year's course. I am glad to say that investigation into the expenses of members of the class this year has shown that prices have not advanced very greatly in this neighborhood. One of the students who has kept careful account told me that her necessary expenses for this year, including board, room, laundry, tuition, carfare, supplies, and the spring trip came to \$520. Another girl who had a more expensive room made it for about \$550, not including, of course, amusements or clothes.

In addition to practical work in our own library, the students this year have enjoyed the opportunity of experience in several branches and departments of the libraries adjacent to Brooklyn.

It was decided to hold the annual supper but to put it on a war basis, sans caterer, waiters, and other incidentals. The plan made a strong appeal and 118 acceptances were received, the largest attendance but one.

Commencement was held on Friday, June 14. Dr Geo. E. Vincent, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, made the address.

The following appointments have been made in the class of 1918:

Kathleen Ainey goes as assistant to the Public library at Harrisburg, Pa.

Inez E. Benedict is to be children's librarian at Eveleth, Minn.

Ella R. Bradley has been appointed first assistant in the Homewood branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Janet E. Bryant returns to the Pratt Institute free library as assistant in the children's room.

Hero Calvert is to be an assistant in the New York public library.

Marian Cutter is to have charge of the children's department and work with schools at the public library, Bridgeport, Conn.

Marguerite M. French returns as assistant to the Public library, Utica, N. Y.

Alice M. Fuller goes to the catalog department at Yale university.

Bernice E. Hainer has an appointment to

the catalog department of the Philadelphia public library.

Louise S. Harris is to be in the children's department of the New York public library.

Doris C. Holmes returns to the Public library at Victoria, B. C.

Mabel B. Serwig has been appointed first assistant in the reference department of Columbia university.

Dorothy H. Thompson returns to the Grand Rapids public library as head cataloger.

Carolyn Ulrich is to be head of the circulation department and of branches at the Public library, Bridgeport.

Edith F. Verneule goes to the Maryland Library commission as field secretary.

Ruth E. Wellman returns to the New York public library as first assistant in the Traveling Library department.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-director.

#### Riverside library service school

The members of the school are divided into three groups for the purpose of visiting county stations and branches. Mrs Mabel F. Faulkner in charge of the county work is conducting these visiting groups. The first group visited the Elsinore-Temecula Valley, the second group the San Geronio Pass country including Banning and Beaumont, the third group the Hemet-San Jacinto Valley.

The Riverside library league composed of library service school students and staff members, have volunteered to do a great deal of community indexing for war service. The war service directory connected with the Riverside war chest is in their hands and they have recently completed indexing the rules and orders for the local exemption board.

Miss Alice Fanny Coldren, '14, and recently at the University of Illinois, has gone into Government service in Washington, D. C.

Miss Margaret Eastman, recently of the Riverside public library, has been employed as assistant county librarian at Missoula, Montana, leaving Riverside May 12.

Miss Helena F. Curtiss, graduate of Pomona college, Riverside, '18, has been appointed librarian at Azusa public library beginning work May 15.

#### St. Louis

Recent lecturers who have addressed the students are as follows: Ernest R. Kroeger (a brother of Alice B. Kroeger), director of the Kroeger school of music, "The literature of music"; E. H. Wuerpel, director, Washington University school of fine arts, gave two lectures, "The psychology of design and "The psychology of the poster"; Miss Mary C. McCulloch, kindergarten supervisor, "The story hour in the kindergarten"; Clark McAdams of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, "Journalism"; Dr C. S. Boucher, assistant professor of history, Washington university, "The literature of American history"; Miss Thekla Bernays, "Italian drama."

The spring schedule included visits to the Mercantile library, the libraries of Washington university, Missouri historical association, Barnes hospital, Washington University medical school, and Missouri botanical garden.

Walter B. Skinner gave a talk on practical printing and conducted the class through a large printing plant. A visit was also made to the Library Bureau office where the students had the opportunity of seeing library equipment and modern filing systems.

All of the students are under appointment, either permanent or temporary.

#### Simmons college

The school was most fortunate in having an opportunity to hear Dr Bostwick talk on "Socializing the St. Louis public library," during his recent brief visit to Boston, and later to see the lantern slides which illustrate the life of that library.

We are also indebted to D. N. Handy, of the Insurance library of Boston, who spoke on "The Special library and the library school graduate."

The final visit of the year was to our neighbor, the Boston Book Company.

Examinations occupied May 27-June 7, and were followed by the commencement festivities, which began with class day, June 8, and closed with the senior luncheon, June 11.

There were 55 students who received the degree of B. S.



## New Appointments

Mrs Wilda (Strong) Peck, a graduate of Western Reserve University library school, with special courses at Simmons college in sociology and French, is to join the staff next year for full time, divided between instruction and work in the College library.

Catherine R. Cummins, Simmons '12, was married May 29, 1918, to Berkeley Wheeler. At home, Elm Street, Concord, Mass.

Black, Edythe F., '18, Public library, Stamford, Connecticut.

Clark, Clara A., '18, assistant, Norfolk House Center library, Boston, Mass.

Coombs, Julia, '18, children's work, New York public library.

Higgs, Marguerite, '18, librarian, Meredith College library, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Knightly, Loretta, '18, cataloger, New York public library.

McDowell, Ella, '18, cataloger, U. S. Camp library, Camp Devens, Mass.

Page, Mildred, '14, librarian, Danbury normal school, Connecticut.

Powell, Mildred, '18, index and catalog clerk, U. S. Signal Corps, Washington, D. C.

Robinson, Gertrude, '18, half-time assistant, Social Service library, Boston, Mass.

Sherman, Elizabeth, '18, index and catalog clerk, U. S. Signal Corps, Washington, D. C.

Yates, Marjorie (Mrs I. Clyde Cornog), '16, filing and general office work, Symington Machine Company, Rochester, New York.

Curran, Althea, '18, children's librarian, Public library, Danbury, Connecticut.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,

Director.

## University of Washington

John Ridington, librarian of the University of British Columbia, on April 18 delivered the last of the miscellaneous yearly lectures given before the library school. Because of the popularity of the subject, "Poetry of the present war," this lecture was thrown open to the entire University, many availing themselves of the opportunity to hear Mr Ridington.

The Alumni association held its annual banquet in honor of the graduating class on the evening of May 21.

More than one-half of a class of 23 has already been placed definitely for the coming year.

Mabel Ashley, '14, of the Library

School faculty, spent the month of April in A. L. A. War Service in Washington, D. C.

## Alumni notes

Esther Hammond, '17, has withdrawn temporarily from library work and is in Watsonville, California.

Helen Lathe, '16, was married, March 1 to Nathan B. Evans. Mrs Evans is continuing her work in the catalog department of the Seattle public library.

Lillian Collins, '14, has been granted a year's leave of absence from her position as assistant in the reference department of the Seattle public library, to take a position in the Ordnance department, Washington, D. C.

Esther Fleming, '14, is spending a few months at her home in Yakima, recuperating from an operation.

Lydia McCutcheon, '13, is in charge of the Lincoln High School library, Seattle, during the temporary absence of Louise Smith Baldwin, '13.

Verna Barstad, '15, librarian of the Centralia public library, was married April 6 to Lieut. Warren Grimm of Centralia. Lieut. and Mrs Grimm are at present in Palo Alto, California. Lieut. Grimm being stationed at Camp Fremont.

Mrs Lillian Steinberger Bate, '13, died March 30 at Tucson, Arizona.

On May 21, the Alumni association of the Library school held its annual dinner at the University Commons. The present graduating class, the guests of honor, were welcomed into the association at this time. Miss Mildred Pope, librarian of the Queen Anne high school, spoke on the opportunities of library school alumni associations. The director of the school spoke on the prospects for graduates of the school, and urged that they go to eastern library schools for advanced study.

The following officers were elected for the new year:

President, Mabel Ashley, '14; vice-president, Mary Gibb, '17; secretary, Lillian Anderson, '16; treasurer, Eleanor Owen, '18; editor, Margaret Schumacher, '17.

Members of the class of 1918 have been appointed to the following positions:

Seattle public library: Edith Cleaves, Louise Coleman, Helen Corbitt, Elizabeth Henry, Doris Hoit, Hilda Plimmer.

Tacoma public library: Mary Arney, Jeannette Hitchcock.

Nell Unger, librarian, Hood River County library, Hood River, Ore.

Pauline Giudici, assistant librarian, Medford public library, Medford, Ore.

Esther Walsworth, assistant librarian, North Yakima public library, North Yakima, Wash.

Margaret Martin, secretary to the librarian, University of Washington library.

Mary Gibb, 1917, and Roberta Meredith, 1917, have received appointments as index and catalog clerks in the Ordnance department at Washington, D. C.

Gezina Thomas Upper, 1916, has accepted a position as assistant at the Yesler branch of the Seattle public library.

W. E. HENRY,  
Director.

#### Western Reserve university

The lectures on "Translations of foreign literature" by Mrs J. S. Harron were supplemented this year by three lectures by Professor Clara L. Myers, W. R. U., on "Modern drama." On May 17, President Thwing entertained the class at his home where he discussed his books of biography giving personal reminiscences of some of the eminent men whose biographies he discussed.

The annual visit to Oberlin College library May 20 was as usual especially enjoyable as well as profitable.

The number of candidates taking the entrance examination for the class of 1919 was not as large as usual.

The commencement address was given by W. H. Brett, dean of the school, and Miss Sue Austin read some war poems, at the Founder's Day program June 11. Honors were distributed as follows: First, Emily R. Cornell, B. A.; Second, Adaline Bernstein; Third, shared by Joyce G. Bisbee, A. B., and Gertrude E. Barth. Certificates for the completion of the course were granted to 25 graduates. All students are placed in positions for next year or have arranged for further study. As the requests that have come in to the school have far exceeded the supply, graduates were placed at much better salaries than heretofore.

*The School Annual*, which has for several years been a pleasing accomplishment for each class, was suspended this year, because of war conditions.

Edythe A. Prouty, '08, has been granted leave of absence from the Cleveland public library for war library service at the A. L. A. Dispatch office, Newport News, Va.

Ruth E. Charles, '10, has been appointed reference librarian of the Public library, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Gordon W. Thayer, '12, has entered military service and is now at Camp Gordon, Ga.

Hattie Stokely, '13, has entered upon her duties in one of the branches of the New York public library.

Muriel A. McArthur, '14, has been granted leave of absence from the Buffalo public library to assist in the work of the A. L. A. Dispatch office in New York under Mr L. J. Bailey.

Mary K. Marshall, '14, has recently entered upon her duties as head cataloger of the Adelbert College library, Western Reserve university.

Mrs Mura M. Craine, '16, has returned to the Cleveland public library as acting first assistant at the Miles Park branch.

Ida C. Lucht, '16, has returned to the Cleveland public library as acting first assistant at Sterling branch.

Louise G. Adams, '17, has been appointed to a branch library position in the Cincinnati public library.

Gladys English, '17, enters upon her duties July 1 as reference librarian in the Public library, Fresno, Calif.

Hildegard Perkins, '17, has been appointed to a position in the U. S. Signal Corps office, War Department.

Edith Wirtschatter, '17, has been appointed to the Foreign division of the Cleveland public library.

ALICE S. TYLER,  
Director.

#### Summer Schools

Chautauqua school, July 6-August 16. This year will start the four summers course which is to count as one year's instruction on the installment plan. Applicants must matriculate before the opening of the school. Address Mary E. Downey, Chautauqua, N. Y.

The Connecticut public library commission will hold a library institute in connection with the summer term of the State normal school at Danbury, July 8-19. Further information will be given on request to Charles D. Hine, 96 Capitol, Hartford, Conn.

The Iowa summer school opened at the State University on June 17 and will continue until July 26. Miss Watts, recently of the Kentucky library commission, will direct the school and take charge of the cataloging and reference work.

A course in indexing and filing correspondence is being given in the Summer library school at the University of Missouri by Miss Mary E. Baker, head cataloger of the university library. The purpose is to fit librarians and stenographers for positions in the war department. The text book used is issued by the department, entitled War Department correspondence file. This is one of Miss Baker's contributions to national service.

#### A Parting Note

Mrs Theodora Root Brewitt (Wisconsin, 1907-08), principal of the library school of the Los Angeles public library, resigned that position on June 1 to become librarian of the Public library, Alhambra, Cal.

In her five years at Los Angeles, to which she came in 1913, from the Normal school library at Lewiston, Idaho, Mrs Brewitt has carried through an important constructive work, in building from the training class of the Los Angeles public library—one of the pioneers in its field in the United States—a well organized, carefully balanced one-year library school course, standardized according to accepted principles and methods. To its development, she brought thorough technical equipment, high ideals, and a quiet and devoted persistence, so unobtrusive that the full measure of her work will not be realized until time has given permanence to the foundations she established. In her new field—the administration of one of the most attractive smaller California libraries—her former associates know that her service will not be bounded by a single community, but will be, as heretofore, an influence for constructive development in the California library world.

E. R. P.

### Department of School Libraries

#### An Exhibit by Los Angeles school librarians during California Teachers' Association

School librarians of Los Angeles have never contented themselves with only the usual lectures given by experts during Institute sessions, but in addition have always made their work more vital and interesting to teachers by a special display of books and materials. We need not state that the text-books have been relegated to a subordinate position, and that the school librarian must equip the department under her special care with books, pamphlets, posters, and clippings to supplement and add to these formal and inadequate texts.

Following notification from Mrs Susan M. Dorsey, assistant superintendent of city schools, as to our place on the program of California teachers' institute, school librarians held a meeting

to discuss the ways of preparing and presenting our subjects to teachers throughout Southern California. After careful consideration of all topics offered, we decided that there was only one to dwell upon at this time, namely: "The relation of school subjects to problems of today."

Librarians and teachers realize the part the schools are going to have to play in building for future peace, and this was the fundamental idea of our library exhibit. Our chairman was elected and each librarian assigned a topic and asked to gather available material from all the various school libraries throughout the city, and arrange for her section. This method employed of bringing the library vividly to the teacher always means that she, too, becomes a very important contributor to our work. Without this hearty coöperation between teachers and

librarians it is impossible to obtain the best results for either branch of the educational service. Teachers were asked to submit outlines on the selected subjects as they would present them in their regular class room instruction. The result was the receiving of beautiful posters designed and executed by our students, as well as scrap books, picture charts, magazine separates, government pamphlets, and clippings from all library sources, the arrangement of which was a real joy.

This copy of our program, "How the library can aid the teacher," gives the speakers at the Round table and includes a list of subjects as developed in the exhibit.

#### How the library can aid the teacher

Round table discussions.

Miss Emma Lee Lott, librarian, Boyle Heights intermediate school, chairman.

1. General book exhibit: Why the illustrated edition?

Mabel S. Dunn, librarian, Manual Arts high school, chairman.

2. Geography.

Virginia La Gue, librarian Gardena high school, chairman. Relation of geography to problems of today.

- A. Elementary: Grade work in geography: Three of our brave allies, France, Italy, Belgium. In charge of Marie Tollefson and Mrs Mamie Cole Johnston, Elementary School library.

- B. Intermediate: Industries of the United States: how they have been affected by the war.

Discussion led by Mabel A. Gilbert, Boyle Hts. intermediate school.

3. Unbound material: What shall we do with it?

Discussion led by Charlotte Casey, director, Elementary School libraries.

4. Applied Domestic Science.

Linnie Marsh, chairman, Jefferson High School library.

- A. Food conservation.

Etta M. Flagg, supervisor of Domestic Science, Los Angeles elementary schools.

- B. Home nursing.

Mrs Sara Blundell, instructor of Home Nursing, Jefferson high school.

5. Special book exhibit; including posters, bulletins and flags.

Marjorie Van Deusen, librarian, Los Angeles high school, chairman.

History in the making:

- A. Why we are at war.

- B. Constructive work in the war:

Red Cross, War Relief, Red Star, Y. M. C. A., etc.

6. Vocational guidance.

Exhibit: Material illustrating the subjects will be on exhibition the entire week in the Polytechnic High School library.

One table bearing the sign, "Unbound material: what shall we do with it?" answered itself by its display of many devices employed successfully in the Los Angeles Elementary School library to keep check on unbound material and make it workable and usable. No attempt was made to touch upon the excellent mounts and more expensive suggestions offered by our large public libraries. This included examples of various means of handling magazine separates; of mounting, circulating and conserving pictures; samples of buckram scrap books for holding any and every kind of loose paper material; suggestions in the way of pamphlet boxes and numerous simple envelope devices adapted to the use of teachers and easily made by school children. An unusual interest was shown by all in the folding buckram charts, a clever scheme for the mounting, protecting and circulating of illustrative material,—an inexpensive, durable and convenient method of housing pictures. A typewritten description was attached to each sample, giving such practical information as its use, price, and source. Just now, when our printed matter for immediate use is largely in unbound, more or less "scrappy" form, and teachers and librarians alike are eager to know how best to manage it and to gain the highest degree of good from it, this branch of the exhibit was illuminating and timely.

"History in the Making" was a display that attracted instant attention, because of the patriotic and rather spectacular arrangement of magnificent flags and posters. It showed graphically and honestly what the high school library can do in vigorous helpfulness through the collection of War books, Red Star bulletins and posters, pamphlets on the constructive work in the war: Red Cross, War Relief, Y. M. C. A., etc.; it indicated the value of bringing to light effectively through the advertising of ideas, material that might otherwise be lost sight of altogether.

Perhaps never has Geography been as interesting to people of all ages as now.

How the library is called upon to respond even in the elementary grades is surprising, and all were interested in the table featuring this branch of primary geography, especially: "Three of Our Brave Allies: France, Belgium and Italy." In this division there were brought together many excellent supplementary geographies, maps, globes, magazines of travel, scrap books, picture charts and other loose illustrative material. The table was a well worked out example of the possibilities of these agencies in dealing with the difficult problem of giving to the little child's imagination the necessary material for visualizing the scenes, localities and conditions involved in the study of the geography and history of today.

The exhibit, "Industries of the United States as affected by the war," advertised how the library can aid the teacher of geography in the intermediate grades. The topic chosen for expansion was the cotton industry, from the seed to the finished woven product. The excellent tried out lists, outlines for a lesson on the cotton plant and the cotton industry, recent magazine articles, with accompanying text-books, pamphlets, bulletins and pictures in color and sepia, showing "America at work," gave proof that this school lived up to its slogan: "When in doubt go to the Librarian."

The keynote of the section devoted to Applied domestic science was *thrift*—that is, care and prudence in the management of one's resources. It brought before the visitors many ways in which the library can be of service in teaching scientific home management—the most important being the "message thrift" through publicity—through exhibiting interesting, live posters explaining through pictures the reasons why all—every school child as well as housewife and financial head, should save fats, save wheat, sugar and meats; through collecting and rendering available approved recipes for making wheatless bread, ice-creamless desserts, and meat substitutes that will be palatable and varied; through the preparation of helpful bulletins on cleanliness, fresh air, care of the baby,

women at work, vocations and home gardening.

In this way the library can aid not only to keep the present home fires burning, but to make them burn brighter than ever for that future time when the need shall be greatest and the home shall be the seat of regeneration.

In the general book exhibit, "Why the Illustrated Book," because it expressed in printing, binding, illustration and content, Beauty, the eternal Truth whether war rages or peace is blessed, through the gold of its fairies, the gladness of its color, the inspiration of its art, softened the sterner side of the effort to "exhibit."

This was the school librarians' second attempt to coöperate with the teachers in their institute, and it was both a success and a welcome addition. The fact that teachers braved four flights of stairs to peep in, remained to admire, to study, take notes and ask questions, proved the endeavor to be not *unsuccessful*, at least.

All material came from their own shelves. This was an indication in a small way of what they can do along any specified line, and will in the future be at the service of pupils and teachers in the different school libraries. Whatever else may be said of this coöperative effort on the part of librarians and teachers to exhibit, it was noted that it breathed earnestness, sincerity and patriotism.

### School Library Movement in New England

A meeting of teachers, librarians, and others interested in school libraries was held at Simmons college, Boston, May 18. Miss June R. Donnelly, director of the Library school of Simmons, acted as presiding officer and briefly reviewed the movement which had led to the meeting. Miss Mary E. Hall, librarian of the Girls' high school of Brooklyn, made a strong plea for the maintenance of school libraries already existing and the establishment of new ones even in these times of financial stress because of their educational value and their almost limitless opportunities for rousing the spirit of patriotism. She also gave advice to school men and to librarians concerning



their individual problems. Clarence D. Kingsley, of the Massachusetts state board of education, compared the New England situation with conditions existing in other parts of the country and looked forward hopefully toward the future. The library trained teacher as a means of introducing pupils to the resources of the modern library was discussed by Miss Martha C. Pritchard, librarian of the State normal school at Bridgewater. Two interesting experiments were described by Ernest L. Collins, head master of the Quincy high school, and Herbert S. Weaver, head master of the School of practical arts of Boston. Mr Collins told of establishing a library in an "impossible" corner of an overcrowded building and vouched for the possibility of obtaining results with little but books and a librarian, while Mr Weaver described his library as one in which room and book collections were ideal but results not all that could be desired because of lack of one vital thing, trained leadership.

A constitution for an organization of school librarians in New England was read by Miss Louisa M. Hooper, of the Brookline public library, chairman of the committee on constitution, and was adopted. The following were elected officers of the New England association of school librarians for the year 1918-19:

President, Miss Martha C. Pritchard, librarian of State normal school, Bridgewater, Mass.; vice-presidents, Miss Iva M. Young, librarian of the high school, Manchester, N. H., Miss Mary H. Davis, librarian of the high school, Brookline, Mass.; secretary-treasurer, Miss Anna L. Bates, librarian of the high school, Quincy, Mass.; Advisory board, Samuel Thurber, of the Newton Technical high school, Newtonville, Mass., Alfred M. Hitchcock, of the high school of Hartford, Conn., and Miss Alice M. Jordan, supervisor of children's work, Public library, Boston, Mass.

New England schools are urged to send names of principal or faculty member to the secretary that they may receive notices of future meetings of the association

### School Training in Library Use

I think it is true that very few, if any, librarians in the normal schools of Southern California omit some sort of instruction in the use of libraries and books. In the majority of cases it is given as part of the English course, always by the librarian. In one or two schools the history department gives time for this, in another the geography class receives the instruction. A few librarians give several lectures, the majority but one in a term. A practice lesson in the library usually follows all instruction.

The time given to library instruction depends on the teachers, who are prone to think their own work already too crowded, and perhaps they are right. Practice lessons and tests are prepared by the librarian and given by the teacher with whose class the lectures are given, and this teacher gives the mark as part of her subject. Topics discussed are: classification, dictionaries, encyclopedias, catalogs, reference books, magazines and guides, ancient and medieval books, modern books, and bibliographies. Many libraries are conducting classes in simple library methods. Student assistants have from five to ten practice periods per week in the library, with one conference period. They are given graduation credit for this.

If the work were shared in all schools as it is in some by the English teachers (whose clear duty it is to instruct pupils in the use of dictionaries, encyclopedias, and many other books, not to mention their history) and if the librarian were given sufficient technical assistance so that she could supervise the work of each pupil as he comes to her for reference work, his instruction in the use of books would result as a product of every day reference work.

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God said, I'm tired of kings,

I suffer them no more;

Up to my ear the morning brings

The outrage of the poor.

Think ye I made this ball

A field of havoc and war,

Where tyrants great and tyrants small

Might harry the weak and poor?

—Emerson.

### News from the Field East

Marjorie A. Harrington, N. Y. State, '17-'18, has been appointed general assistant in the New Haven public library.

W. R. Cutter, who was librarian of the Public library of Woburn, Mass., 1882-1909 and afterwards librarian emeritus died at his home there, June 6, 1918. Mr Cutter was a member of A. L. A. party that went to England in 1897.

The Thomas Crane public library of Quincy, Mass., in its annual report records: Appropriations, \$20,210; expenditures, \$19,935; salaries, \$11,364; books, \$3,358. A re-registration of actual borrowers shows a list of 5,430 persons. Number of volumes on shelves, 44,512; circulation, 183,934.

The report of the Brownson library of Waterbury, Conn. records books on the shelves, 103,624; circulation, 263,317v. The debating and studying clubs have been superseded by knitting classes and clubs. This decreases circulation but helps tremendously the Red Cross. The library contributed \$7,662 to the War book fund. Receipts for the year, \$29,195. Paid for salaries, \$12,198; books, \$6,428.

### Central Atlantic

Mary I. O'Sullivan, N. Y. State, '15-'16, has been appointed head cataloger in Bryn Mawr college library.

Helen G. Cushing, N. Y. S., '17-'18, has been appointed assistant in the New York state library.

Dorothy L. Hawkins, N. Y. S., '17-'18, returns to the staff of the Wilmington Institute free library.

Margaret J. Scott, N.Y.S., '17-'18, has been appointed cataloger in Haverford College library.

Robert W. G. Vail, N. Y. P. L. 1914-16, was married on June 1, to Inez M. Rogers at Elmhurst, L. I.

Azalea Clizbee, N. Y. P. L. 1912-14, has been appointed editor of the *Readers' Guide Supplement* for the H. W. Wilson Company.

Bessie L. Eldridge, N. Y. S., '17-'18, has been engaged as first assistant in the State normal school library at Geneseo, N. Y.

Mrs Ruth Dickinson Pfirrmann, Pratt '17, has been made assistant librarian of the library of the U. S. department of agriculture.

Mary B. Brewster, N. Y. State, '18, has succeeded Alice Jewett, '14, as first assistant in the Order section of the New York state library.

Mrs Rachel Rhoades Anderson, Pratt '11, has been made Service Directory librarian of the Community Clearing House in New York.

Elinor E. Randall, B. L. S., N. Y., '18, has been appointed assistant in the Central lending department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Mrs Ethel Sherwood Bucher, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '10, has joined the staff of the New York public library as Information desk assistant.

Ruth Brown, N. Y. S., '16-17, has joined the staff of catalogers in the office of the Superintendent of documents, Washington, D. C.

Mabel Abbott, N. Y. P. L. 1911-14, went from the catalog department of the Minneapolis public library May 15, to join the staff of the Tacoma public library.

A gift of 8000 volumes to the University of Pittsburgh to be known as the Darlington memorial library has been made by the daughters of the late W. M. Darlington.

Lorette Jenks, Pratt '13, recently of the Chicago public library, has been appointed to the reference-catalog department of the New York public library.

Mary M. Shaver, B.L.S. N.Y.State, '18, is assisting Miss Downey in the Chautauqua summer library school. In the fall Miss Shaver will resume her work in Vassar College library.

Flor-Etta Kimball, Pratt '14, has resigned from the Carnegie library at

Pittsburgh to take a position in the Military Intelligence bureau in New York.

Rosamond McIntosh, Pratt '14, of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, has taken a position in the New York dispatch office of the Library War Service.

Helen M. Claflin, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '15, has resigned the librarianship of the Public library, Attleborough, Mass., to become head of the catalog department of the Public library, Brookline, Mass.

Miss Florence G. Finney, Pratt '17, formerly reference librarian in Reynolds library, Rochester, N. Y., has been made assistant in the reference department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Esther A. McKelvy, Pratt '15, formerly assistant at the Normal school library of Tempe, Arizona, has been appointed assistant teacher of English in the Commercial high school of Brooklyn.

Paul M. Paine, librarian of the Public library of Syracuse, N. Y., has received the degree of Doctor of Literature from Syracuse university. He was a writer and critic of repute before he entered library service.

Mary B. Snyder, N. Y. P. L. 1912-13, (Drexel 1902) has left the library of Henry Disston and Sons, Inc., Philadelphia, to organize the library of E. F. Houghton and Company, in the same city.

The decision has been reached not to erect the new main building for the Philadelphia free library on the Parkway until after the war. The contract which had been let to Gill & Sons of Cleveland for \$2,535,000 has been annulled by court order.

William Foote Seward, librarian of the Public library, Binghamton, N. Y., has taken up work as librarian at Camp Bowie, Fort Worth, Texas, for the months of June and July. During his absence Miss Helen A. Stratton, head of the reference department, is acting-librarian.

An exhibit is on in the Newark public library intended to set forth the opportunities for development in Colombia, South America. It is prepared especially for the interest and information of exporters interested in South American trade. The exhibit will be on display for several months.

Marie K. Pidgeon, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '16, has resigned her position as assistant in the Legislative reference section of the New York state library to join the indexing and cataloging force in the office of the Quartermaster General, Washington, D. C.

#### Central

J. H. Dice, library organizer of Ohio, has resigned to enter military service.

Nathan R. Levin, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '18, has returned to the staff of the Chicago public library.

Marie A. Hammond, Ill., '09-10, has resigned her position as assistant in the Library of the University of North Dakota.

The annual report of the Public library of Decatur, Ill., records number of books on the shelves, 39,450; circulation, 147,544 v.

An increase of 10% in salaries was granted to the librarians and employees of the Public library, Hibbing, Minn., at the June meeting of the Library Board.

Arabella Woods, formerly librarian at Manchester, Ia., has been elected librarian of the Public library at Oelwein, Ia. She will begin work, July 31.

Florence B. Currie, Ill., B. L. S. '06, has been appointed head of the catalog department of the University of Minnesota vice Edna Goss, Ill., B. L. S. '02, resigned.

Miss Ethel Wright, for some time at the Public library, Virginia, Minnesota, has been appointed supervisor of work with children in the Public library at Toledo, Ohio.

David Wolff, formerly in the reference division, New York public library, is now associated with the library of Hebrew Union college, Cincinnati, as cataloger.

Miss Helen Martin, children's librarian of the Union Square branch library of Somerville, Mass., has resigned to take charge of the children's department of the Public library of East Cleveland, Ohio.

Helen A. Bagley has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Oak Park, Ill. Miss Bagley was assistant librarian for several years and on the death of Miss Mabel Thain was made acting-librarian.

A new building for the Public library of Clear Lake, Iowa, a gift from the Carnegie Foundation, was dedicated June 7. It is a \$10,000 building, is very attractive, and much appreciated by the town. Another Carnegie gift building was opened at Britt, Iowa, on June 20, cost \$8,000. This is the first library in the town.

The City Council of Toledo has provided a special levy of two-tenths of a mill additional taxes asked for by the Board of Trustees of Toledo Public Library. The question will be submitted to the voters for approval in the fall. Under the present tax the library receives \$46,000. The new tax, if carried, will give the library an annual income of \$75,000.

Dr George R. Throop, Collier professor of Greek in Washington university, has been appointed assistant librarian of the St. Louis public library. Prof Throop is a native of Tennessee. He graduated at De Pauw university, Greencastle, Ind., in 1901 and received the degree of A. M. there in 1903 and that of Pd. D. at Cornell university in 1905. He has taught in the intervening years in De Pauw, Cornell, Washington universities and at Illinois college. He has written and published to a considerable extent in philological journals.

Dr Throop has taken special interest in building up the library of Washington university and has been of great service to the university in this field. He has recently done administrative work for the Red Cross, and in this capacity he has shown himself an unusually capable executive.

Birchard library has completed its forty-third year of service to Fremont, Ohio, and reports a fund of \$25,000 invested in Liberty Loan bonds; a raise in the tax levy for library purposes to .18 mill. In compliance with the recommendation of the Association of library schools, the salaries of both the librarian and her first assistant were increased. A bequest of \$2,000 for building purposes was received from the late Dr. M. Stamm, a former trustee, and several valuable gifts were made to the museum.

Inventory, after a considerable weeding out of books, shows 13,000 on the shelves, well cataloged. Additions of the year number, 1,752. Circulation, 42,436 books, of which 20,700 were juvenile. Readers and students numbered something over 20,000. Work with school children and teachers has been most encouraging. Posters for the alcoves were designed and made by pupils in the schools.

The museum, lodged in the open balcony, is one of the library's greatest assets and its displays are more and more coördinated with the work of the library. The secretary, Miss Lucy E. Keeler, spent much time in New York and Newark in the spring, studying methods for increasing the efficiency of this branch of the service. Elizabeth M. Richards is librarian.

#### South

Miss Anna Coldewey for the past six years connected with the Public library of Louisville, has resigned to enter the service of the Kentucky Savings Bank.

Gladys B. Allison, N. Y. S., '13-'14, has resigned her position as librarian of the children's department, Public library, Houston, Tex., to become librarian of the Southwest Texas State normal school at San Marcos.

The annual report of the Public library of Dallas, Texas, in a population of 150,720, records a total circulation of 184,798 volumes through 17 agencies, with 57,803 v. on the shelves; number of borrowers, 31,023; receipts, \$22,711; expenditures, \$20,466.

The following have joined the staff of the University of Missouri library: Ruth McCaughtry, from the Iowa State University library; Celia I. Rogers of the St. Louis library; Emily B. Smith, from Western Reserve University library school, and Abbie Hudson, a graduate of the University of Missouri this year, who has been engaged three years as a student helper.

#### Pacific Coast

Florence M. Craig, Ill., B. L. S. '17, has left the service of the University of Minnesota to accept the position of cataloger at Leland Stanford University.

Margaret W. Brown, who was for several years librarian of the State traveling library of the Iowa library commission, has become head of the County department of the Public library, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Miss Maida Rossiter, librarian of Reed college, Portland, Ore., has resigned. Miss Rossiter will be married during the summer to Meredith Bailey, Jr., now of Oregon but formerly of Philadelphia.

Ruth Beard, California, '14, assistant, California state library, was married May 19 to Roy Freeman McDowell, of San Francisco. Mr McDowell is in the U. S. Navy service stationed at Mare Island. Mrs McDowell remains with the Sutro branch.

Miss Laura Steffins, on the staff of the California state library since '02, and librarian of the Sturo branch of the California state library since it was first opened, was married April 27 to Dr Allen H. Suggett, an orthodontist of San Francisco. Mrs Suggett plans to remain in library work.

Florence Gould, Pittsburg '18, has been appointed in charge of the children's room in the main building, Public library, Tacoma, Wash.

Jeanette Hitchcock, Washington '18, has been appointed to the circulating department.

Mabel L. Abbott, formerly of the Public library of Minneapolis, has been added to the staff also.

Harriet Smith resigned to be married in June to Lieutenant F. S. Buckley.

The Public library of Portland, Ore., has organized a technical room for women, which promises to be one of the most useful of its many activities. The need was felt for special accommodations for women who are called on to take men's places and keep things going while the latter are engaged in the defense of the country. The women who have gone into the work have made it plain that they wanted to keep in touch with the newest and best books in their various lines and with the ideas and suggestions which will mean greater efficiency and consequently more salary. The library thinks it has made such provision in its women's technical department.

A note from George W. Fuller, librarian, Public library, Spokane, tells of the participation of 31 members of the staff in a Red Cross parade. The library had a float on which was shown a nurse reading to a wounded soldier. Signs on the side of the float announced that Spokane had given 15,000 books and urged the public to come to the library for war food hints and all kinds of government information.

Miss Grace Turner of the catalog department was garbed to represent the poster soldier and led the library unit carrying a lofty pile of books.

The marching of the library unit attracted much favorable comment. The distinctive uniforms with blue caps and the A. L. A. monogram on the arm bands and the trim appearance of the library section made a pleasing part of the white column of marching women.

#### Canada

The annual report of the Public library, Collingwood, Ont., records a circulation of 15,810 v.; 9,323 v. on the shelves; the appropriation for the year, \$2,409; expenditures, \$2,374.

#### Foreign

Harald R. Johansen, N. Y. State, '16-'17, has been appointed sub-librarian of the Kommunens Folke-biblioteker, Copenhagen, Denmark.